

One must maintain a little bit of summer,  
even in the middle of winter.

Henry David Thoreau

# MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

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## Antiques Roadshow, experience of a lifetime

By Jerry Russin Jr.  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

On Tuesday, July 12, the Shelburne Museum located in Shelburne, VT hosted the very first Vermont taping of the Antiques Roadshow in the history of the PBS television show since it first began in the mid 1990s. Up until then, the Roadshow only hosted the event in large convention centers across the country. Vermont is one state that does not have a large enough structure for the volume of attendees that the Roadshow invites and anticipates to attend. However, recently that model for producing the show changed, and the producers decided to expanded the show's setting to also include outdoor settings. This decision finally gave Vermont the very long overdue opportunity for residents to finally reveal the hidden family heirlooms and old treasures tucked away in barns and attics all throughout the hills and valleys of our state.

It was said that 2000 pairs of tickets were randomly awarded to folks who entered for the random drawing online, submitted special "wow factor" items, or entered into other small contests the show offered in the time leading up to the event. Attendance was planned for 4000 people; it is estimated that some 3000+ people were able to attend the event that Tuesday, and as someone who was present as a volunteer for the event I can confidently assure you that was no exaggeration!

As young kid, like many other people I grew up watching the Antiques Roadshow. The excitement, thrill, and sheer amazement at the appraisals was something I'm sure many folks always found fascinating. The show has taught us all to look at those "old things" we have in a different way. For me in particular, the Roadshow was a real inspiration that aided greatly in fueling my love and appreciation for antiques, and ultimately helped lead me into a career, and even to starting my own small antiques business. It was particularly fulfilling to have the opportunity to meet and talk with many of those same appraisers who I watched and admired over all those years. Just to be able to tell them what their unknowing impact was on me, is something I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to do. We often wonder what it would be like to have those opportunities, and the appraisers for the Roadshow are among some of the nicest, approachable, and easy to talk to people you could hope for!

As a volunteer for the event I was asked to assist the Arms & Militaria appraisers. For this particular area of appraisals, the



three appraisers needed someone to help organize the lines into three date range categories. Row #1 was post-1890s, Spanish American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Category 2 was the Civil War era leading up to 1890. Category 3 was pre-Civil War and anything Colonial War-era. I needed to ask guests what it was they had brought and get them organized in rows so the appraisers could be most efficient in giving the attendees the correct answers they have long waited for. I found it to be incredibly interesting to chat with people who have waited so long for the opportunity to get the answers to their questions.

I even experienced a few people having life-changing appraisals. Unfortunately I have sworn to secrecy regarding those particular details, as I can't spoil the suspense of the show before it airs, but you can rest assured that those appraisals won't disappoint you! It was suggested that the Vermont taping will likely be broken up into three one-hour segments. I think that is something absolutely wonderful, and as someone who works in the antiques market here in Vermont, I'm not really all that surprised by the need to break it up into so many episodes.

We have a rich history here in Vermont and in many ways it has been bypassed, overlooked, and ignored. Perhaps the exposure by the Roadshow will help revitalize that history and show other people across the country that although we're a small state, we were the first state to be entered into the Union after the

On Tuesday, July 12 Jerry Russin Jr. volunteered at the recording at Shelburne Farms of the PBS taping of its Antiques Roadshow television program. These photos show (at left) hopeful antique owners waiting for good news at an appraisal table; (right, top) Jerry Russin Jr.; (below, left) Russin's 1987 stainless steel Rolex OysterQuartz wristwatch; and (below, right) Russin's Vermont maple sugaring history item: a pre-1919 True & Blanchard, Newport, VT Moonarch Evaporator sign.

PHOTOS BY JERRY RUSIN JR



original 13 colonies, and our story and our people have a very rich history with a lot to tell and share with the rest of the world.

As a volunteer for the event we were all awarded free appraisals after the event for items that we all had and wanted to learn more about. I brought along three items that I've picked up along the way in my time of collecting and dealing in antiques.

Roadshow continued on page 2

## Local towns get ready for August primary elections

### Bolton: getting ready to vote August 9

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer

Vermont's Primary Election is Tuesday, August 9!

Register to vote: register online at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>, by mail using a paper Vermont Voter Registration Form, in person at the Bolton Town Office, or in person at Smilie School on Tuesday, August 9.

How to vote: Registered voters can vote two ways: by early/absentee voting by mail or in person, OR in person on Tuesday, August 9 at Smilie School from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM. Registered voters will not be automatically sent a ballot ahead of the August 9 primary; ballots must be requested either online at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/> or by contacting the Town Office. (For the November 8 election, all registered voters will receive a ballot by mail; more on that closer to the election.)

*How to Submit your Voted Ballot:* Deposit your voted ballot in the new BALLOT DROP BOX at the Bolton Town Office, to the left of the office door; return it person to the Town Office; at Smilie School on Tuesday, August 9; or by mail. We suggest that you mail your ballot by Monday, August 1 to ensure it arrives in time to be counted. Ballots received after August 9 will not be counted.

*Why Three Primary Ballots?* For the primary, you will be offered a ballot from each of the major parties: Democratic, Republican, and Progressive. You must pick one ballot to complete. However, all three ballots — including the two blank ones — must be returned in the envelope provided if you are

voting early, or returned at the polls for in-person voting. Not returning the two blank ballots risks your vote not being counted!

*Tabulator:* Bolton has been "hand counting" ballots since 1763, but this year that is changing. The Bolton Board of Civil Authority voted for the town to begin using a tabulator machine to count ballots. Our current voter checklist currently stands at 990 voters, and when towns reach 1000 voters, they are mandated by the state to start using a tabulator. We did not feel that holding off for more ten registrations would provide any advantage; and in fact, election officials wanted an opportunity for us all to gain experience with the tabulator prior to the 2024 Presidential Election. The tabulator was purchased by the state and the state provides the programming for all state (not local) elections. We do plan to use the tabulator for local elections as well, as the

Primaries continued on page 2

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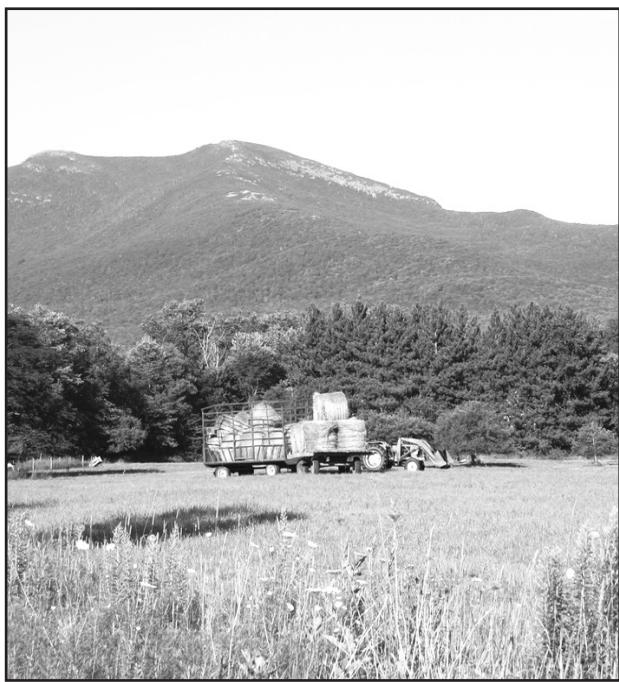
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Haying under the mountain, July 2005. PHOTO BY SARA RILEY

## Problematic publicity for Bolton Potholes

By Andrew Pond, Bolton Selectboard and MMUSD Board  
Wednesday, July 6

My email to Steve Libby, Executive Director of the Vermont River Conservancy (VRC), is copied below. He plans to take this request to the rest of the VRC leadership team next week (the week of July 11). If you support the request to remove the Bolton Potholes from their website, please show your support by emailing him [slibby@vermontriverconservancy.org](mailto:slibby@vermontriverconservancy.org) or calling their offices 802-229-0820.

Steve,

My relevant experience includes many years serving on and chairing both the Bolton School District and the Mount Mansfield Modified/Unified School District Boards. I continue to serve on the Mount Mansfield School Board, and now also serve on the Bolton Selectboard. I have composed this letter based on what I have learned from these experiences.

The Vermont River Conservancy (VRC), neighbors, (Bolton) townspeople, and Boards all identify overuse as a critical problem at the Potholes. Prior to ownership, the VRC had repeatedly stated that community support would be required before the VRC became involved at the potholes. After the VRC purchased the land, the Town and the School have worked with the VRC as good neighbors. "Danger" signs and parking have been allowed on Town and School property, mostly at the expense of the school District. Welcoming signs, stairways and pathways, and the like are regular requests from the VRC that have been consistently denied.

Neighbors, townspeople, and the Boards never have wanted any publicity. In 2015, the spot "won" the award for best place to swim in a *Seven Days* "contest," and the Selectboard wrote *Seven Days* asking that the potholes be disqualified from any future awards. "Out of respect for our town, schoolchildren, nearby residents, and the families of those who have perished at the Bolton Potholes, we implore you to disqualify the Bolton Potholes in the future should it ever 'win' this category again," they wrote.

In 2022, we experienced yet another death.

The overuse issues continue.

Please remove any reference to the Potholes from your website. This unwanted publicity brings visitors who attempt to park in driveways and on lawns, indifferently trespass in backyards and into homes, and party loudly into the night. And more.

When I was chair of the Bolton School District, I would regularly contact websites asking for removal of any references to parking at the school. All happily complied. At a minimum, please remove the <https://vermontriverconservancy.org/completed-projects/bolton-potholes> website and any other references to the potholes from your website.

As a good neighbor, the least you can do is cease publicity that only exacerbates problems.

Thank you,  
Andrew Pond  
Bolton, Vermont

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Town of Jericho bridge closure on Browns Trace

By Paula Carrier, Jericho Administrative Assistant

The Town of Jericho will be closing the bridge on Browns Trace located near #518 and #521 Browns Trace. This work will start Monday, July 25 and run through Friday, August 12, and there will be no through traffic.

Travelers will have to seek alternate routes via Governor Peck Road and/or Barber Farm Road. This work consists of repairing the structure beams and abutment. Most of the work will take place underneath the bridge.

### How's your Internet speed?

By Brad Holden, Underhill Town Administrator

The Town of Underhill is trying to determine the number of residents who feel that their Internet speeds are too slow.

Last year the Vermont Legislature passed Act 71, an act relating to accelerated community broadband deployment. In Act 71, lawmakers determined that "Underserved" means a location that only has access to broadband service capable of speeds of at least 4 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload but less than 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload.

If you feel that your residence is underserved, please consider

running an Internet speed test — there are many speed test sites available on the web. Simply type "internet speed test" into your browser, choose one, and follow the instructions.

If your results are less than 25 Mbps download speed and less than 3 Mbps upload speed, we would like to hear from you. Please email Brad Holden, Town Administrator: [bholden@underhillvt.gov](mailto:bholden@underhillvt.gov) or call 802-899-4434 Ext 7. Please share your speed test results and your Underhill address.

### Jericho planning and zoning news

By Chris Flinn, Jericho Zoning Administrator

The Jericho Planning Commission (PC) will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, in person at the Jericho Town Hall and via Zoom, YouTube/MMCTV, and Comcast local cable TV. The PC will discuss the current active projects: developing an Official Map, updating the Town Plan, and comparing options for investing Jericho's ARPA (American Rescue Plan / COVID recovery) funds as they relate to planning goals. All residents are invited. More info and how to participate can be found on the Join in Jericho website, <https://jerichovt.org/planning-commission>.

The Jericho Planning and Zoning office will be closed from Monday, July 18-Wednesday, July 27.

### Changes in Westford's zoning office

By Nanette Rogers, Westford Town Administrator

For those who are not aware, Kate Lalley submitted her letter of resignation effective Tuesday, June 28. Kate served as Westford's Zoning Administrator for 10 years. She will be deeply missed. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors!

A search for a new Zoning Administrator resulted in the hiring of Harmony Cism. Harmony has lived in Westford for five years. She is excited to join Town Office staff and getting to know Westford and its residents. Welcome aboard, Harmony!

The Town asks residents for their patience during the transition.

### Rail Safety on the newly expanded Ethan Allen Express Amtrak

By Toni Clithero, Operation Lifesaver of Vermont

Operation Lifesaver of Vermont (OLVT) wants everyone to know that the Ethan Allen Express is now traveling between Rutland and Burlington in preparation for the July 29 launch of the newly expanded service from Rutland north to Middlebury.

**News briefs continued on page 3**

Primaries continued from page 1

programming costs have come down significantly over the last several years. We know that this will be different, with a learning curve, and we also know that Bolton will continue to provide a safe, accurate vote count, where every voted ballot counts.

**Volunteers:** We will be seeking help staffing the polls on Tuesday, August 9, can you help? Contact the Town Office!

### Voting in the August 9 state primary election in Jericho

By Jessica Alexander, Jericho Town Clerk

Just a few updates while I have been processing absentee ballot requests for the August 9 primary election. There will be a few ways that you can vote early/absentee.

1. You can request to receive a ballot in the mail.

2. You can stop by the Town Office to pick up your own ballot.

3. You can vote in person in the Town Office during normal office hours. We are closed between 12:00 – 1:00 PM each day.

4. If you live in Jeri Hill, we will have a mobile polling place visiting on Wednesday, July 27 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. This is for Jeri Hill residents only, and there will be election officials on site to help answer questions. Jeri Hill residents can take advantage of this or choose to use the other methods available to all voters (including voting in person on election day).

A few questions/observations have come up while I have been fielding calls about the upcoming election:

• *Can I vote in person on election day?* Yes, the polls will be open from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM at Mount Mansfield Union High School.

• *What if I want to vote more than one ballot?* You will receive three different party ballots. It is okay if you mark other party

ballots while you are making up your decision as to which ballot to vote; however, you will need to choose the ballot that you want counted. The ballot that you want to count will go in the signature envelope. The other two ballots will go inside the "unvoted ballot" envelope. Both envelopes are then returned together so that three ballots are returned.

• *When completing the certificate envelope, do I have to sign my name the same way that the mailed envelope was addressed?* No. Please print your name in the first space on the certificate envelope and include a middle initial if possible. At the bottom space on the certificate envelope sign your signature as you normally do. If you forget to fill in the date section, that does not make your ballot defective. If there is a question about your signature we will be contacting you the voter to verify your signature on the certificate envelope.

You can track your absentee ballot status by visiting My Voter page, <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. If you are unable to sign in to My Voter page please reach out the Jericho Town Clerk Office Election extension 1-802-899-4936 X100. I can fix this problem by connecting your driver's license number with your voter registration. There are about 700 Jericho voter records that do not have the driver's license number linked with the voter registration record. These are generally voters that have been registered in Jericho before the statewide voter checklist was created in 2005.

### August 9 primary election in Westford

By Callie Hamdy, Westford Town Clerk

The warning and sample ballots for the 2022 Vermont Primary Election have been uploaded to the town website and can be

viewed at <https://westfordvt.us/state-primary-election/>.

In-person voting will occur on Tuesday, August 9 at the Westford School between the hours of 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is 4:30 PM, Monday, August 8. You may request and pick up your ballot at the Town Office, or if you would rather have a ballot mailed to you, please call the Town Office at 802-878-4587 or send an email to [townclerk@westfordvt.us](mailto:townclerk@westfordvt.us). Please note, only the voter may take their ballot from the office. All other requests must be mailed. Please allow sufficient time for mailing.

### Voting the August primary election in Underhill

By Sherri Morin, Underhill Town Clerk

Primary voting is in full swing and there is still time to request a ballot.

Once you receive your ballots, please read the enclosed material carefully. For your vote to count, be sure the certificate envelope is signed and all ballots are returned. If the unvoted ballots are not returned with the voted ballot, your vote will not count.

If you'd like to vote by mail, you can request a ballot online at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>, send an email to [smorin@underhillvt.gov](mailto:smorin@underhillvt.gov), or call the Town Clerk at 802-899-4434 x1. All ballots must be returned no later than 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 9. Ballots can be mailed, dropped off at the Town Hall during business hours, or dropped in the secure box outside the Town Hall.

Voting at the polls is from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 9 at the Town Hall, 12 Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center.

Rpadshow continued from page 1

The first item I had looked at was a very important Vermont maple sugaring history item: a pre-1919 True & Blanchard, Newport, VT Monarch Evaporator sign. In the realm of maple sugaring collectibles, signs are incredibly rare, particularly ones with a subject matter specifically related to evaporators. The sign was appraised at \$650.

The second item I brought was a 1796 first Governor and founder of Vermont Thomas Chittenden U.S. Senate election results warrant. This warrant was sent to the town officials in each town, stating that Matthew Lyon was the winner of the Western District election. Matthew Lyon would secure his name in American history during his second term by being the only U.S. Senator to ever be elected while serving time in jail. The document is also a great example that shows the old time "Mountain Rule," which dictated a large amount of Vermont politics for many years up until the 1960s, where political representation was decided by alternating elections held by voters of the West, then the following cycle by voters of the East. This was meant to appease the fairness of landholders on the Western side who were once a part of New York, and the folks on the East

who were once a part of New Hampshire. The document lists all the candidates and the total votes received. Some of the 35 names would eventually secure their names in Vermont history, such as Isaac Tichenor, Israel Smith, and Jonas Galusha, who would each eventually become Governors of Vermont.

Nathaniel Chipman, Jonathan Robinson, and again Israel Smith would also eventually become U.S. Senators for Vermont. Ira Allen was also a candidate listed but he only received one vote. Not a very popular figure I suppose, though he and his brother Ethan Allen played a huge role in helping to fight for U.S. independence by assembling the Green Mountain Boys Militia, and also helped in forming Vermont as a state. With just a very few of these documents having been created, it was estimated at \$500-1000.

My final item was my 1987 stainless steel Rolex OysterQuartz wristwatch with a faded blue dial. In the late 1970s the luxury watch industry was fearful that quartz (battery powered) watches would take hold of the watch market and would steal the business from mechanical (hand-wound) watches. Rolex didn't want to take its chances of being behind the game, so in an effort to keep

up with the times they designed and produced their own quartz watches. They were never a huge success, and as time went on it was discovered that the love and appreciation for mechanical watches would not cease. It is rumored that less than 30,000 of these watches were ever produced over a 30-year period; so this model had among the lowest production numbers for a particular Rolex model. The example I own originally had a dark blue dial, that unbeknown to Rolex, if exposed to sunlight over many years would fade to a plum purple color. Original factory defects play a huge role in the value of vintage luxury wristwatches, and if left original they will fetch a premium over other examples because of their uniqueness. My watch's appraisals was estimated at \$5000-5500 — a number I was very surprised by and quite delighted to hear!

It is fair to say my *Antiques Roadshow* experience was absolutely all I could've hoped for it to be, and a dream come true for someone who has always admired the show. It was also fun to learn that the items I felt were significant were indeed as good as I hoped, if not better than I imagined.

## COLLEGE HONORS

**Lucy Boyden** of Cambridge, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI.

**Rachel Boyden** of Cambridge, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI.

**Lily Loomis** of Jeffersonville, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI.

**Jack Messier** of Jeffersonville, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI.

**Cooper Pinaud** of Jericho, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Pinaud is in the biomedical engineering program.

**Madison Roberge** of Underhill, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List, earning highest honors, at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.

**CJ Roberts** of Jericho, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Roberts is in the electrical engineering program.

**Anna Schwarz** of Cambridge, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List, earning highest honors, at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.

**Emmitt White** of Jeffersonville, VT has been named to the spring 2022 Dean's List at the Rochester Institute of Technology. White is in the graphic design program.



For a brief time in July into August, 2004 when it was being built, the Mills Riverside Park pavilion's timber frame structure was there for all to see.

PHOTO BY SARA RILEY

News Briefs continued from page 2 —

Ferrisburgh-Vergennes, and Burlington. The train travels at speeds of up to 59 mph and cannot stop quickly — it can take a train traveling 55 mph over a mile to stop.

Please help OLVT get the word out that trains are moving more quietly and faster than you think. Encourage everyone to make safe choices around railroad tracks. Never walk or run on or along the tracks — it is illegal trespassing and hazardous, even without earbuds or other distractions. Modern trains travel on steel wheels along quarter-mile long ribbons of steel; the noise comes from the wind through the wheels and is all behind the train, making the train almost silent. The clickety-clack and vibration associated with the trains of the past are no longer present.

The only place to cross the tracks is at a designated crossing. Pay attention, slow down, and never try to beat a train. When you #SeeTracksThinkTrain. Together, we can #STOPTrackTragedies.

Please see <http://oli.org> for more information and to take the #RailSafetyPledge, one for kids and one for adults. OLVT is available for free presentations at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/rail/oli>. Thank you!

## Mount Mansfield school district tax rates decrease

By Edye Graning, MMUUSD School Board Chair

The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) budget as approved by voters in March resulted in a decrease of almost 12% in our equalized homestead tax rate. We continue to take great care in spending to optimize educational costs.

Additionally, our statewide education fund had a one-time surplus that is being returned to taxpayers — these lower rates are not expected to continue and will likely influence increases in subsequent years. And like last year, the increase in fair market value of homes in all of our towns is “baked in” to the tax rate printed on our bills. (Rates in Underhill have not yet been set pending results of their reappraisal).

More than any change in the school tax rate, year-to-year differences in an individual taxpayer bill are highly influenced by changes in their town Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) and by changes in their household income (from two calendar years ago to the previous calendar year). Most Vermont homeowners receive a property tax adjustment on their property tax bill. As of 2021, this applied to households with incomes below \$136,900 (be sure to file a homestead declaration, property tax credit claim, and household income schedule with your annual state income tax return, if applicable).

Education property taxes are collected statewide. To ensure that homeowners pay education taxes based on the fair market value of their homes, the Vermont Department of Taxes conducts an annual study of home sales and adjusts the appraised values in each town by their Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). Impact of the Common Level of Appraisal this year:

.....pre-CLA.....CLA.....with CLA  
Bolton.....\$1.3035.....85.45%.....\$1.5255  
Huntington.....\$1.3035.....83.84%.....\$1.5547  
Jericho.....\$1.3035.....89.12%.....\$1.4626  
Richmond.....\$1.3035.....82.43%.....\$1.5813

The Underhill CLA will be closer to 100% and the rate closer to \$1.30.

State of Vermont “Understanding Your Property Tax Bill” <https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/property-tax-bill>

State of Vermont Equalization Study (CLA) <http://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study>

## Creating affordable homes in Underhill; website for details

The United Church of Underhill and Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity have been working steadily to create more affordable homes in Underhill. Creation of affordable housing is part of the Underhill Town Plan and we have been supported in the planning effort by the Selectboard and our municipal officials. The need for good quality houses that families can afford to purchase and maintain is urgent and has only been made more so by the recent rise in real estate prices.

To keep the community informed about the progress

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being made, we have established a new website: <http://www.harvestcrossing.org>. We invite you to visit the site and learn more about what's happening and how you can support the effort.

Our plan is to purchase the property behind the United Church of Underhill and build homes that can remain perpetually affordable. In addition to building affordable homes, we will be keeping part of the property open for gardens, walking paths, and open space. As we have worked towards this goal over the past couple of years, we are more and more excited about what this can do for our town.

## Westford Selectboard meeting draft minutes

By Nanette Rogers, Westford Town Administrator

Wondering what the Westford Selectboard discussed at their June 23 meeting? The draft minutes are available for reading at <https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/2022-06-23-Draft-Minutes.pdf>. You can also view Lake Champlain Access TV's recording at <https://lcatv.org/westford>.

## Roadside mowing in Underhill

By Sherri Morin, Underhill Town Clerk

Roadside mowing in Underhill began on Friday, July 8. Paved roads will be mowed first, then dirt roads. Mowing will last approximately three weeks.

## Westford notes

**Property Tax Bills, by Nanette Rogers, Westford Town Administrator:** Wondering where your property tax bill is? Tax bills were mailed on Friday, July 15. The first installment will be due Monday, August 15. If your taxes are escrowed, please supply a copy of your bill to your mortgage holder as soon as possible so they can process the payment. Questions? Please contact the Town Office, 802-878-4587 or [townclerk@westfordvt.us](mailto:townclerk@westfordvt.us).

**Westford's Free Food Pantry:** Next time you're at the Westford Country Store and Café, check out the free food pantry on the porch. Help yourself to what you need, take something for a neighbor, or leave something for someone else. And many thanks to all who've been keeping it well-stocked over the summer. Dry and canned goods, pet food, cleaning supplies, and healthy snacks are always appreciated. Thank you from Westford Mutual Aid.

**2022 Westford Farmers' Market and Pop-Up Shops** will be returning this year on the Town Common. Come support your local farmers and artisans, selling fresh, local food and unique, hand-crafted products. The first market kicked off during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade on the Westford Town Common. Following markets will take place Saturdays, August 27 and September 17, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM on the Westford Town Common.

**Trails Update from the Conservation Commission, by R Kirsten Tyler, Westford Conservation Commissioner:** We are pleased to announce that all trails in Westford are cleared, clipped, lopped, mowed, trimmed, and whacked. Thanks to everyone who helped get them ready for summer! Hike a trail you've never tried. You can find the trail guide online at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PkD1XKpQhjWCO6wH38gXrJu\\_WKkcJf/view?ts=5f60d1fc](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PkD1XKpQhjWCO6wH38gXrJu_WKkcJf/view?ts=5f60d1fc). We are always looking for volunteers to help with simple trail clearing, which is an ongoing task. Interested in weed whacking, kicking sticks off trail, or cutting up a log? Shoot us an email and we'll put you on the volunteer list. As always, please let us know if you find any blowdowns or other trail obstructions. Email WCC at [westfordcc@googlegroups.com](mailto:westfordcc@googlegroups.com).

## New in Bolton: new Ballot Drop Box

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer

A new state sanctioned/approved ballot drop box has been installed to the left of the door at the Town Office. Please, when

# Carol Cares

Because sometimes it takes a village

### Summer Fun

Too much to do and not enough hands?

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carolcaresvt.com

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FULLY VACCINATED

returning your ballots use this drop box, not the building drop box to the right of the door. The ballot drop box is open to receive ballots for the August Primary until the Primary, on Tuesday, August 9, 2022. On that date, ballots need to be returned to the polls at Smiley School.

Thanks to Mike Gervia, for the great installation job, in the pouring rain!

## Volunteer for Westford

The Town of Westford has several volunteer opportunities to serve the community. Please contact the Town Office at 802-878-4587 or [townadmin@westfordvt.us](mailto:townadmin@westfordvt.us) if you are interested in being appointed to one of these positions. To apply for one of the positions below, please submit an application (<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/APPLICATION-FOR-APPOINTMENT.pdf>) to [townadmin@westfordvt.us](mailto:townadmin@westfordvt.us) or mail/drop off at the Town Office.

**Fence Viewer:** Fence Viewers are called upon to act in limited situations. On occasion, the legislative body will call upon the fence viewers to examine a fence line between adjoining properties to determine what portion of the fence must be made, repaired, or maintained by each party. Fence viewers may also be asked to determine where a fence must be placed when it cannot be placed squarely on a property line. For more information on the responsibilities of a Fence Viewer go to <https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Fence-Viewer.pdf>.

**CCRPC Representative and Alternate Representative:** The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) was founded in 1966 to promote the mutual cooperation of its 19 member municipalities and to facilitate the appropriate development and preservation of the physical and human resources in Chittenden County.

CCRPC is composed of 19 municipal commissioners, and five at-large commissioners (representing Agriculture, Conservation/Environment, Socio-Economic/Housing, and Transportation). The legislative body of each of Chittenden County's municipalities selects its own commissioner and alternate commissioner. The full Commission selects the five at-large representatives. Each commissioner has one vote.

CCRPC's regular monthly meeting is on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM. These meetings are open to the public. For more information go to <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/commission/commissioners-alternates/>.

**CCRPC Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC):** The CWAC oversees the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission activities and policy development regarding, but not limited to, the Vermont Lake Champlain Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Plan and its related plans and programs. The Committee typically meets the first Tuesday of the month. To view minutes, agendas, and other documents, please go to <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/committees/clean-water-advisory-committee/>. For more information contact Dan Albrecht, CCPRC Senior Planner, at [dalbrecht@ccrpvt.org](mailto:dalbrecht@ccrpvt.org) or 802-846-4490.

**CCRPC Lamoille Basin Water Quality Council:** The responsibilities of a BWQC as outlined §39-502 of the CWSP Rule are: (a) The purpose of a BWQC is to establish policy and make decisions for the CWSP regarding the most significant water quality impairments that exist in the basin and prioritizing the clean water projects that will address those impairments based on the basin plan; (b) When prioritizing clean water projects and prioritizing the most significant water quality impairments in the basin, the BWQC shall consult with the basin plan and CWSP and utilize the Agency's project selection protocols; (c) The BWQC shall participate in the basin planning process established in 10 V.S.A. §1253(d).

Potential members should be knowledgeable on clean water topics for the applicable basin; interested in prioritizing and selecting non-regulatory clean water projects for funding at quarterly BWQC meetings; interested in participating in the applicable Tactical Basin Planning process.

## The Mountain Gazette

6558 VT Route 116, Starksboro, VT 05487

802-453-6354

[mtngazette@gmavt.net](mailto:mtngazette@gmavt.net)

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## Free first aid and CPR training with Fairfax Rescue

Free first aid and CPR training with Fairfax Rescue will be offered four times this summer and fall. This opportunity is brought to you by Westford Mutual Aid, with funding from the Westford Public Library Community Fund.

Each session provides information and practice in basic first aid and CPR skills with experienced trainers in an interactive, small group session. Prepare yourself to help your neighbors and others in need. You don't need to live in Westford to attend, and youth are welcome as well as adults.

Dates and times (pick one): Sunday, August 21, 1:00 – 6:00 PM; Saturday, September 17, 1:00 – 6:00 PM; Sunday, October 16, 1:00 – 6:00 PM; Saturday, November 12, 1:00 – 6:00 PM. All sessions will be held at Fairfax Rescue. Each session has the same content and covers CPR, first aid, and AED use.

To sign up for a session, please contact Carol Winfield at [carol@vtwildlife.com](mailto:carol@vtwildlife.com).

## COVID tests available by curbside pick-up at DRML

Need an at-home COVID test kit? The Deborah Rawson Memorial Library is offering them ONLY through curbside pick-up for community safety. Kits will not be available inside the building.

Contact 802-899-4962 or [rawsonlibrary@drml.org](mailto:rawsonlibrary@drml.org) to arrange a pick-up so that we can have them ready. Let us know the number of kits you need, up to four kits; each kit contains two tests. We will let you know what bag number yours is.

## Stay safe when it's hot outside

From the VT Dept. Of Health

When Vermont heats up, do you struggle to find places

## HEALTH NEWS

where you can go to cool off? We can help! The Vermont Health Department recently launched a map of air-conditioned buildings, beaches, pools, and other cooling locations available to the public. The map and tips on how to stay safe in the heat can be found online at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/climate/heat>.

In Vermont, heat-related illnesses become much more common when temperatures warm to the mid-80s and above, especially on sunny and humid days. During early summer, even lower temperatures can affect our health.

Especially while we're still adjusting to warmer weather, it's important to ease into outdoor activities, take frequent rest breaks, and drink plenty of fluids. Muscle cramps, heavy sweating, nausea, headache, or dizziness may all indicate a heat illness. Dial 9-1-1 or seek immediate medical help if you are concerned about your health or someone else's health when it's hot.

## Free COVID tests available in Westford

Thanks to a partnership with the Vermont Department of Health, free COVID-19 tests are available at the Westford Town Office, the Westford Public Library, and the Westford Food Shelf (please take from only one source), up to four boxes per person (two tests in each box) — while supplies last.

Please do not enter buildings while sick. If you need a curbside delivery, let someone at the Library (802-878-5639) know.

## Bright ideas about sun protection for your child

With summer upon us, parents are hot to ask me about sun protection for their children. Here are some hot tips on this topic.

Remember that *there is no such thing as a healthy suntan*. One blistering sunburn in a child's sensitive skin will double their risk of getting skin cancer as an adult. Even getting a suntan that doesn't burn will increase the risk of skin cancer if appropriate

sun protection is not used. The good news is that the use of sunscreens can reduce skin damage and the risk of skin cancer by 80%.

Infants under six months should never be in the sun due to their thin sensitive skin, and should be shielded from the sun's ultraviolet light using a sunshade on strollers or an umbrella on the beach.

Infant sunglasses are a must. It's now clear that the risk of danger to the retina from the sun's rays is greatest in children younger than 10, even though the consequences are not apparent until adulthood. Sunglasses for infants and children should be ones that block out the ultraviolet light to protect those eyes.

Make sure your child knows sunscreen is a requirement and not an option. Use a waterproof or sweat-resistant broad-spectrum sunscreen on all shades of skin, whether dark or light, with an SPF of at least 15 up to 50. (There is no data that says there is any added advantage to having an SPF over 50.) Apply sunscreen generously to your child, meaning apply it every 1½-2 hours starting 30 minutes before going out into the sun, and reapply every 1½-2 hours and more frequently than that after swimming or sweating a lot. Sunscreens have recently even been approved for infants for their exposed faces and backs of hands, assuming they are otherwise clothed and in the shade, but I still say infants should not be out in the sun — even with sunscreen on.

Plan your outdoor activities before 10:00 AM or after 4:00 PM, when the sun's rays are not at their brightest.

If a sunburn occurs, ease the pain with acetaminophen, cool compresses, and aloe vera lotion or gel to reduce the redness and take the sting out of the burn — but remember it is much easier to prevent a burn than to have to treat it.

Hopefully tips like these will bring rays of hope to you and your child when it comes to shedding some light — just not sunlight — if you want to protect your child's skin from the dangers of the sun.

*Lewis First, MD, is Chief of Pediatrics at UVM Children's Hospital and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the UVM's Larner College of Medicine.*

## WORSHIP SERVICES

### Virtual services at MMUUF

Sunday services at the Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship are held at 9:30 AM on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, September-June. Services are led by members of the fellowship and by invited guest speakers, including visiting UU ministers and leaders of other faiths. Each service explores a different topic. Worship, reflect, and sustain one another, within an inclusive spiritual community, built on values of honoring and affirming the worth of every person, striving for justice, participating in the world community, and respecting the natural web of existence. Services will be exclusively held over Zoom; please contact [info@mmuuf.org](mailto:info@mmuuf.org) or 802-899-2558 for how to join. Located at 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Learn more at [www.mmuuf.org](http://www.mmuuf.org) and [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org).

### Jericho United Methodist Church

Jericho United Methodist Church welcomes you to grow in Christ with us. We hold dear the United Methodist Church's motto: "Open doors. Open Hearts. Open Minds." We recognize that our faith journeys are all unique, just as we as individuals are all unique. Know that whoever you are, whatever you do, you are welcome here. We believe that we grow together or not at all. All are welcome! Join us Sundays at 10:00 AM. There will be music, prayer and message from our pastor, Rev. Taeseob Cho. Please contact Rev. Cho at the church phone number, 802-899-4288, or his email, [umccho@gmail.com](mailto:umccho@gmail.com). Located next to the Jericho Town Hall on VT Rt. 15.

### United Church of Underhill

The United Church of Underhill is an active, vibrant congregation. We are young and old; single, couples, and families; believers, questioners, and questioning believers. All are welcome. Some people think of us as the Harvest Market Church or the Clutter Barn Church. We gather to worship together every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. Our service is

traditional but lively, with music, a children's sermon, and much more. For instructions on joining worship from home, please see <https://unitedchurchunderhill.com/joining-worship-from-home/>. We provide many opportunities for worship, fellowship, and service, but we also welcome you to come in, be still, and contemplate your faith. Located at 7 Park St., Underhill. Pastor's office (with voicemail) 802-899-1722; church secretary, Tuesday and Wednesday 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM (no voicemail) 802-899-4583.

### Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville

The Second Congregational Church in Jeffersonville would like to invite all who feel called to join us for our online church services, Sundays at 10:30 AM. Know that no matter who you are or where you are in life's journey, you are welcome at our church; or in this case, our web-space! <https://www.facebook.com/SecondCongregationalUCC>

### Jericho Congregational Church is here to help

Jericho Congregational Church — "An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message" on the Green in Jericho Center, VT. Senior Pastor, David Coons and Youth Pastor, Peter Anderson. Current offerings: Sunday School at 8:30 AM for all ages, Fellowship at 9:30 AM, Worship Service at 10:00 AM; Nursery care provided. Summer schedule: Worship Service at 9:00 AM; Fellowship at 10:30 AM; Youth group 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building. 899-4911; [officejcc@comcast.net](mailto:officejcc@comcast.net); [www.jccvt.org](http://www.jccvt.org).

### All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho

You are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on VT Rt. 15 at 9:00 AM every Sunday. The building is accessible — all are welcome! There are varied musical styles in worship services, including Folk, Contemporary, Celtic, Latin American, and traditional. Weekday online offerings include

Centering Prayer. We are an open-minded Christian community with a focus on social justice issues, where people from different faith traditions, along with those who aren't sure where they belong or what they believe, seek the support of a spiritual home. We welcome you in the name and love of Christ. More information is at [www.goodshepherdjericho.org](http://www.goodshepherdjericho.org) or contact Pastor Arnold Isidore Thomas at 802-899-3932 or [pastorthomas@goodshepherdjericho.org](mailto:pastorthomas@goodshepherdjericho.org).

### Calvary Episcopal Church

Calvary Episcopal Church in Jericho has now resumed worshipping in person on Sundays at 9:30 AM. If you would like worship service information, please contact the parish administrator at [calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com](mailto:calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com), or call 802-899-0453. All are warmly invited!

### St. Thomas Catholic Church

St. Thomas Catholic Church in Underhill Center invites you to join us in person for the Holy Mass at 8:30 AM every Sunday. There is also a vigil Mass at 4:00 PM on Saturday evenings. Our priest, Fr. Richard Calapan, also celebrates Mass during the week, on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM and Fridays at 8:00 AM. Confessions are available on Tuesdays before Mass. Visit us at [www.ssthomasvt.com](http://www.ssthomasvt.com) or call 802-899-4632 for more information.

### Waterville Union Church

We meet in person at 9:30 AM at the church; masks recommended. Zoom is only available when there is bad weather or illness of a speaker. We do not post our recorded services to Facebook. But information can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/watervilleunionchurch>, [watervilleunionchurchvt@gmail.com](mailto:watervilleunionchurchvt@gmail.com); 32 Church St., Waterville.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Join me in voting for Kitty Toll

To the Editor,

If you are voting a Democratic ballot in Vermont's primary election day, Tuesday, August 9), I hope you will join me in voting for Kitty Toll to be the candidate for Lt. Governor. Kitty was a member of the House Appropriations Committee when I was the chair and eventually went on to become chair of the committee herself. Kitty is a collaborative and thoughtful leader.

She asks great questions and knows how to get to solutions that work. She is exactly the kind of leader Vermont needs.

Kitty has a thorough understanding of Vermont's budget and

has shown herself to be careful in working to spend Vermont's resources wisely. Her focus on bringing broadband to Vermont's rural areas, building more affordable housing, and strengthening Vermont's childcare system will help move Vermont in a positive direction.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with Kitty when we were in the legislature together. I hope you will join me in enthusiastically supporting her bid to be the Democratic candidate for Lt. Governor with your vote!

Martha Heath  
Westford

### Why I support Ted Kenney for State's Attorney

To the Editor,

As a woman of color raising my biracial child in Vermont, as a person with a decade of sobriety, as someone with professional and familial experience with mental health issues, as someone who has lived experience as a victim of crime and domestic violence, I am supporting Ted Kenney on August 9 for State's Attorney.

Why? Because as someone who believes in criminal justice reform and also experiences the effects of many of the issues that our current SA discusses, I have grown increasingly concerned with her practices and prosecutorial trends that affect each and every one of us.

We all deserve to feel safe where we live and work and raise our children. But safety doesn't exist in a vacuum. It arises out of collaboration and conversation — both of which do not take place right now.

Ted is not advocating for a "tough on crime, lock 'em up and throw away the key" approach. If elected to State's Attorney, he will use his position to collaborate with those who are being ignored and those who are being impacted, and when needed,

he will utilize the criminal justice system to ensure the public is safe.

We are hearing it from our first responders and firefighters, we are hearing it from the nurses at the emergency department — they are all speaking up and saying that they are being endangered at work and our communities are being endangered by the lack of collaboration with the SA's office currently.

Ted cares about reform, race, mental health, victims of crime, and substance abuse. As do I. I am tired and heartbroken over seeing crime victims be re-victimized by the current arrangement, I am frightened for my child's future in Chittenden County, and I am frustrated by policies and prosecutorial decisions being made in the name of certain demographics that do not represent what we actually want nor need.

I hope you will take an opportunity to learn more about his message and his vision. <https://www.tedforstatesattorney.com/>

Please reach out to me or to Ted through his website with any questions. And please vote on Tuesday, August 9. We may be on the outskirts of this county and immune to much of what is happening in the more urban areas, but our collective wellbeing is tied to those who are suffering the most right now.

Rachel Lawler  
Jericho

### Supporting Kitty Toll for Lt. Governor

To the Editor,

Serving as your representative in the Vermont Legislature has been a great honor and privilege. We have achieved so much for our state and community. I am grateful for your support and for the thoughts and ideas you have shared with me over the past 14 years.

Letters continued on page 5

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## COMMUNITY COLUMNS

### **Then and now; I want then back.**

By Sara Riley

*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

People... friends and readers... I know that many voters — enough to have legitimately elected him in 2016 — like Trump and continue to support many of his policies. I have no argument with that; I have lived long enough to have seen more than one president get elected and govern whose policies and politics differed from my preference. And the country came through all of the presidencies in my adult lifetime, the ones I broadly agreed with and voted for as well as those I didn't, with dignity and democracy intact.

This feels different to me. I didn't vote for Nixon and I believe he did not get what he deserved for his corruption, but I supported his creation of the EPA and the opening to China. I didn't vote for Reagan, but the day after he won all 50 states I shook the hand of a coworker who was his partisan. I agreed with the nuclear arms control agreements he implemented, and I was shocked and horrified when he was shot. I didn't vote for GHWBush, but supported him when he built a wide international coalition and took us into a war to reverse Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

To repeat: this feels different to me. When McGovern lost to Nixon, 49 states to 1 (Massachusetts), he lost graciously. Ford lost to Carter, and retired with honor. Carter lost to Reagan in a race with a faint hint of bad aroma (Iran released the U.S. hostages on the day Reagan was inaugurated), and Carter has gone on to show us all how to live a life of public service. GHWBush lost to Bill Clinton, and retired to Texas after a long career that began with heroic service in WWII. Gore lost to GWBush in a closely contested vote that was narrowly decided by the U.S. Supreme Court and, say what you will about him, Gore yielded without public acrimony and spared the country further strife. McCain — who knew more than most of us know about perseverance — lost to Obama after a righteous campaign and went on in the Senate, fulfilling his oaths of service to the end of his life. Mitt Romney, who failed to unseat Obama, still serves in the U.S. Senate. Hillary Clinton lost to Trump, a result that shocked them both, went back to private life, and is rarely heard from.

And now here we are. This feels different to me, more threatening to our nation than any other crisis we've faced since I was old enough to vote, and I'm 70. Even Nixon, who colluded with Henry Kissinger to subvert the Paris peace talks in 1968 before the presidential election, did not do so much harm. And when he knew he was well and truly caught for Watergate, Nixon resigned.

### **Freedom and democracy under attack**

By Kesha Ram Hinsdale, Chittenden State Senator

kramhinsdale@leg.state.vt.us

July 12

Many of you have reached out in the wake of the *Dobbs v. Jackson* Supreme Court decision, raising concerns about more than abortion access and medical privacy. Frighteningly, additional threats were made to *Griswold*, *Lawrence*, and *Obergefell* that would roll back LGBTQ+ rights and privacies; *West Virginia v. EPA* has called into question our entire environmental protection framework; and the Court has indicated it will hear *Moore v. Harper*, potentially devolving our federal elections to state control where voter disenfranchisement and gerrymandering has become rampant.

In the face of all of this, we are reviewing our policy and constitutional options in Vermont to ensure we protect Vermonters

Nixon once said, "If the President does it, it's legal." I call this the "because I say so" way to conduct politics. But even Nixon did not defy election results, not even when he lost to Kennedy in 1960. He did not shamelessly claim in the face of evidence (let alone preemptively) that he could not lose, did not lose, everyone else was to blame, and he should stay. That's the situation we are in now.

There simply is no legitimate evidence that the 2020 election was corrupted or stolen. Every knowledgeable authority and investigation and court ruling sustains the validity of the voting and the counting of votes. Those authorities and investigators and judges came from across the political spectrum and divide; the mark of honesty, of honor and integrity, is devotion to the facts, wherever those facts send the conclusion.

"I don't want it to be true, I won't believe it!" is not a substitute for factual evidence, whether it is the man himself or the people who like him saying so.

My dismay here is not about policy, nor even about politics, though I could wish for a more elevated political climate. We as a nation have lived through worse disagreements and worse economics; remember, I came of age in the 1970s. Today it is the harm being done to our country, maybe irreparable harm, from this brazen effort to overturn reality — that is what's different.

All those candidates who did not win their elections, who bowed with dignity and honor intact to the expressed will of the American people — those candidates who, by yielding to the vote, conserved our democracy — I want that America back.

That past in which all the voters whose choices did not prevail, who wished it didn't happen — all those citizens who maybe gulped hard but shook hands and went to work for their candidates and issues for the next time — I want that America back.

I try to live that world, working to make it so — but I can't do it alone. We all need to help.

*"The truth has this going for it:  
the facts are on its side." (Stanislaw Lém)*

### **June photo contest winners for Jericho and Underhill**

By Bernie Paquette

**Connecting Community with Nature.**

Congratulations to Louanne Nielsen of Jericho for the photo contest entry of American Nursery Web Spider (*Pisaurina mira*) over what looks to me like an egg casing. The photo can be



*Wild blueberries like these are ripe now for picking, to quickly be followed by wild raspberries and the rarer (and even more delicious) wild black raspberries.*

PHOTO BY SARA RILEY

viewed at <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/121926104>.

Congratulations to putitontheunderhillstab (userid) on her Underhill entry of a photo of an American Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*). The photo can be viewed at <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/123105412>.

Both folks can contact me to make arrangements to pick up their award (Creemee gift certificate from either Jericho Country Store or Palmer Lane Maple).

View all the photo entries at <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/joinpc-jericho-observing-life-in-nature-photo-contest>. Remember — you can help choose a winner by selecting the FAV star on any of the photos entered on the iNaturalist project page. Click on the link above, click on any of the photos, then if the one you have open is your favorite, click on the star on the right side below the map. You can choose as many favorites as you wish.

Thanks to all who are participating in the contest, helping us to recognize our bond with all living things!

The next award winner will be chosen on Monday, August 1 from photos entered during July.

View the instructions on how to participate in the contest at <https://jerichovermont.blogspot.com/2022/04/joinpc-jericho-observing-life-in-nature.html>.

## LEGISLATIVE NEWS

against these attacks on our freedoms, our health, and on the very foundation of our democracy.

Please rest assured we are keeping a close eye on gubernatorial executive orders to protect medical providers and those traveling across state lines to seek care from extradition. We are also following efforts like the expansion of New York's Equal Rights Amendment to bring identity classes based on ethnicity, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression under greater constitutional protection. They are also advancing a constitutional right to marriage equality, which is something Vermont may also want to do.

Props 2 and 5, which erase language around slavery and enshrine reproductive freedoms in our Vermont Constitution, will culminate their four-year process with your vote in November, so any additional constitutional changes would take effect in 2026 at the earliest.

Decades of conservative activism across the nation have

primed state courts and legislatures to enact restrictive legislation, further highlighting the importance of local elections and legal frameworks in protecting the fundamental autonomy and dignity of all Americans.

I urge you not to feel powerless. Give to the Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom fund (<https://www.vermontaccess.org/>). Pay attention to who is running in your local and legislative races (<https://vtdigger.org/vtdigger-2022-election-guide/>). Vote (<https://mvp.vermont.gov/>), volunteer, and hold your elected officials accountable. Some of you have even reached out to share articles, offer research help, and co-author legislation. I welcome that, and I know my colleagues do, too. We don't have all the answers, but we are here to listen and search for them with you.

Thank you, as always. It is a privilege to serve you in these challenging times.

### **Letters about Vermont Prop. 5**

To the Editor,

The reality of Prop 5 is that it would enshrine in the state's constitution the right to reproductive freedom for all. The state's current abortion laws do give all Vermonters the right to abortion, but as we've seen across the country, those rights can be taken away in an instant by Republican legislators invested in forcing people to carry pregnancies to term regardless of the threat to the life of the parent or any violence that may have initiated the pregnancy.

What Vermonters are being asked with this ballot initiative is: do they believe that the right to self-determination, the right to decide what is the correct medical treatment for themselves and their families, the right to get an abortion, is important enough to enshrine in our highest law, to protect it from the whims of crude politics. I plan to vote yes on Prop 5, and I'd ask all of my neighbors to join me.

**Jim Dandeneau**  
**Underhill**

To the Editor,

Regarding Prop 5, Article 22. Please understand what you are voting for. Abortion is already legal in Vermont, right up to the hour of birth. If you vote "No" to Article 22, it will not take away anyone's right to have an abortion.

The language in Article 22 is very vague. The words "reproductive liberty" can be interpreted in a variety of ways, and everyone should think about that in the light of today's social climate. "Enshrining" this law into the Vermont Constitution would make it nearly impossible to change, regardless of who wants to change it. We would be giving up the ability of being able to reassess and amend should circumstances go completely off the rails, not such a far-fetched idea considering some other happenings of late. A "No" vote would retain the current law and leave the avenue open, should reconsideration be warranted.

Thank you in advance for careful thought before checking the box.

**Carol Gross**  
**Jericho**

For non-partisan facts about Vermont Proposal 5, the Editor recommends readers to the Ballotpedia website's page [https://ballotpedia.org/Vermont\\_Proposal\\_5,\\_Right\\_to\\_Personal\\_Reproductive\\_Autonomy\\_Amendment\\_\(2022\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Vermont_Proposal_5,_Right_to_Personal_Reproductive_Autonomy_Amendment_(2022))

Note, the Mountain Gazette will select to print letters on this topic that are concise, that stick to facts and calmly-stated opinion, and that are civil.

### **Kenny for Chittenden County State's Attorney**

To the Editor,

Please consider Ted Kenney.

Why am I voting for Ted Kenney for Chittenden County State's Attorney? Ted has spent his career working in the criminal justice system. He's worked tirelessly as a defense attorney in criminal court and as a parents' attorney in family court. Ted knows the issues facing our county and he is willing to be a partner with the various stakeholders to address the increase in gun violence, opioid overdoses, and retail and car thefts.

Ted understands that there are times when he will need to

ask the Court to impose conditions of release or bail on certain defendants. He appreciates the need to listen to the victims of crime and ensure that they are being heard. As State's Attorney, all voices in the community will be heard, not just some voices.

Please join me in voting for Ted Kenney on Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

Mike Fullem  
Underhill

### **Supporting Rory Thibault for VT Attorney General**

To the Editor,

I am writing in support of Rory Thibault, who is seeking to be elected as Vermont's next Attorney General. I support him because he is the most qualified of the candidates running and I have full confidence that he will capably and ethically serve the public in that role.

I have known Rory since our days as students at Vermont Law School. Even back then, it was apparent that Rory was a person committed to choosing a career path in public service. He went on to serve in the United States Military Judge Advocate General Corps and eventually returned to Vermont to serve as State's Attorney for Washington County and in the criminal division at the Attorney General's Office. I remember Rory as a student never hesitated to speak out on issues that were important to him, and always did so in a manner that was respectful of others' views and perspectives. I understand from others who work around him now that this remains true today.

Rory's military service and experience leading the Washington County State's Attorney's office has prepared him to build and lead a highly effective team as the next Attorney General. The work of that office is extremely varied and complex, and involves a wide variety of litigation and general counseling duties to a broad array of state agencies, along with state-wide criminal enforcement that overlaps with the jurisdiction of the individual county States' Attorneys. Notably (and unsurprisingly) Rory's candidacy is endorsed by many who serve in those other state government roles, including many current States' Attorneys and legislators.

I would be happy to speak to anyone about any other information I could help them with in deciding between the primary candidates running for Attorney General. Don't forget to vote come August!

Sarah Katz  
Underhill



Libaries continued from page 6

Please check our website and the notice boards outside of the library for updates and more information on programs and library services: [www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org](http://www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org) or 802-899-4686.

#### VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

Please let us know how we can assist you by contacting [varnumrequests@gmail.com](mailto:varnumrequests@gmail.com) or 802-644-2117.

Summer is here, and we welcome you to view our website for our complete list of summer events, including the Summer Reading Program! <http://www.varnumlibrary.org/calendar>.

Wednesday, July 20, 10:00 – 11:30 AM, Cambridge Community Center: CLIF Story Time with Vermont author Natalie Kinsey-Warnock. She will read aloud from books and share her love of words, reading, and writing. Each child who participates chooses two books to keep from a wide selection of brand-new children's books.

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM: Two-Book Tuesday story time! Come join us and share in a relaxed story time, followed by a craft to make or take. We will aim for the front porch, weather depending. If indoors, masking is requested.

Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Technology Wednesdays. Join the Varnum staff for individual technology help. Bring your questions and/or device, and we will try to help you figure it out.

Thursdays, 4:00 PM: Dungeons and Dragons. Are you curious about Dungeons and Dragons? Are you an experienced player that needs a party? Come join us at the Varnum. No experience needed; all ages welcome!

The Varnum has two open Library Trustee positions. If you love the library and want to make a difference in our community, we invite you to consider a role as a Trustee: <http://www.varnumlibrary.org/trustee-position>.

The Varnum Memorial Library is open for curbside pickup and in-person browsing. Please continue to wear a mask. Our hours are: Tuesdays 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Wednesdays 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Thursdays 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Fridays 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; and Saturdays 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; closed Sunday-Monday. (Note, hours at the Varnum can vary week to week; please check the website to be certain.)

The Varnum Library, P.O. Box 198, 194 Main St., Jeffersonville, 802-644-2117; [thevarnum@gmail.com](mailto:thevarnum@gmail.com); [www.varnumlibrary.org](http://www.varnumlibrary.org).

#### WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Fiber Arts Group that normally meets at the Westford Public Library on Thursday evenings will be on break this summer and will start again in the fall.

Do you have a document that needs to be notarized? The Library now offers notary public services: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 5:00 – 7:00 PM; and Saturdays, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. We will only be able to offer these services at these specific times; please call ahead to confirm notary public availability.

The library hours of operation (meaning come in and browse the shelves, use the computer, grab a DVD, etc.): Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Wednesdays 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursdays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Fridays 1:00 – 7:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, no appointments needed. Patrons of all ages are welcome, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. If you feel you need curbside service, for whatever reason, please email Bree at the library and we can work something out. We want nothing to impede you from using the library.

#### Events for everyone

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (August 3), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (July 16, August 20), 8:00 – 9:00 AM. With increased openings, they need more inventory! The Westford Public Library has food collection bins at all curbside pickups from now on. These bins are for non-perishable food and household items.

#### The Summer Reading Program!

The Summer Reading Program 2022 runs through August 5.

You can register in person at the library, or online at <https://forms.gle/mG8vL3mFMPKX7dr19>.

Age levels, reading goals, and prizes:

- ages 0-2 "Guppies" (babies and toddlers): fun activities for families to do together, stuffed animal prize at the end;
- ages 3-8 (kids): 10 books/150 minutes read per raffle ticket;
- ages 9-12 (tweens): 3 books/240 minutes read per raffle ticket;
- ages 13-18 (teens): 1 book read per raffle ticket;
- adults - 18+ (adults): 1 book per raffle ticket; adults fill out their own raffle tickets at the library as they read.

Raffle tickets will be made by Ms. Bree when reading logs are turned in (due August 4). Raffle tickets will also be given for coming to programs. Prizes consist of gift certificates to Essex Cinemas, Phoenix Books, Westford Country Store, and more! Prizes will be awarded at the end of the SRP Ice Cream Party on Friday, August 5.

Every time you come to the library you can work on our sticker mosaic! Last year it was a unicorn, what will it be this year? Get a strip of stickers to place every visit. Together is better!

"Finding Nemo" Find the hidden clown fish in the library and get a prize! The prize bucket returns after a long couple of years without it. All ages welcome to participate each visit to the library.

Westford's hiking trails and storywalks! Poetry Walk: on Maple Shade Trails. Story Walk: Enjoy Duck and Goose Go to the Beach on the school trails; see the kiosk for the exact trail. A new story will go up in August. Westford Trail Passport: This exciting program is back and better than ever!

Thursdays, 11:15 AM: Ocean Storytime On the Common. Bring your lunch and a blanket and be ready for fun! Every week we will read stories related to the ocean. We will sing and move, too! Take-home crafts available. We will use the gazebo if weather is bad. July 21: Keep Oceans Clean; July 28: "Crabby" Storytime; August 4: Sandcastles and the Beach.

Mondays, through August 1: Marine Mondays. Virtual reality dives of our National Marine Sanctuary Sites every Monday on our Facebook Page; from NOAA. 360 degrees on your device or can be used with a VR headset.

Summer Reading Program/events schedule and details (events with a (\*) require pre-registration).

Tuesday, July 19, anytime 3:00 – 7:00 PM: "Buried Treasure" Coded Scavenger Hunt around the Common. Stop in at the library to get a decoder wheel and get started. Clues will lead you around the Common and to a "treasure." Repeated on July 30 from 10am-2pm.

\*Wednesday, July 20, 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Bob, the Reading Tortoise. Readers entering grades 1-5 can sign up for a 15-minute reading slot.

Friday, July 22, 4:00 – 6:00 PM on the Common: Crafternoon Liquid Watercolor Sea Life Shapes. Messy watercolors make beautiful sea creatures.

Tuesday, July 26, 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Library: Crafternoon "Hodge Podge." Did you miss a

Crafternoon? Enjoy making the leftover projects.

\*Wednesday, July 27, 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Bob, the Reading Tortoise. Readers entering grades 1-5 can sign up for a 15-minute reading slot.

Friday, July 29, 4:00 – 6:00 PM on the Common: Crafternoon "Hodge Podge." Did you miss a Crafternoon?

Enjoy making the leftover projects.

Sunday, July 30, anytime 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM: "Buried Treasure" Coded Scavenger Hunt around the Common. Stop in



*Spontaneous variations in wild brown-eyed Susans, a feature of summer in Vermont.*

PHOTO BY SARA RILEY

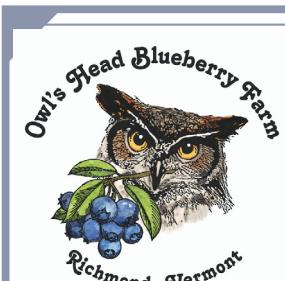
Crafternoon? Enjoy making the leftover projects.

\*Wednesday, July 27, 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Bob, the Reading Tortoise. Readers entering grades 1-5 can sign up for a 15-minute reading slot.

Friday, July 29, 4:00 – 6:00 PM on the Common: Crafternoon "Hodge Podge." Did you miss a Crafternoon? Enjoy making the leftover projects.

Sunday, July 30, anytime 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM: "Buried Treasure" Coded Scavenger Hunt around the Common. Stop in

**Libraries** continued on page 8



**MUSIC NIGHTS  
ON TUESDAYS!**



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**CAMBRIDGE, VT 05444**

**WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS**

**Dr. Jevin Carruth** is proud to announce that he will carry on serving the dental needs of Lamoille, Franklin, and Chittenden counties following the retirement of Dr. David Solomon.

**Born and raised in Underhill, Dr. Carruth brings with him years of advanced training in cosmetic, surgical, and emergency dental procedures.**

**He looks forward to meeting you!**



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## COMING EVENTS

### **Thursday, July 21**

**Turkey Pie Supper to Go**, 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Binghamville Methodist Church, Fletcher. Take out or tailgate only. Menu: homemade turkey pie, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cole slaw, mixed vegetables and cupcakes. Adults \$12, children 6-12 \$6, under 6 free. For reservations call Dennis or Charles, 802-849-2120, or Tara Sweet, 802-355-0768.

**Lamoille (Basin 7) Water Quality Council (BWQC) Annual Meeting**, 9:00 – 11:00 AM, on Zoom. The meeting's agenda items include a project discussion (featuring the Deer Brook Gully project). Future meetings of the Lamoille BWQC will be held every other month on the fourth Thursday of that month; the next meeting will be on Thursday, September 22. The link for access to the Zoom meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8999961?pwd=ZzEyR3VXUUV1OEc5Z3ZPZ1dPbTlrdz09>.

### **Sunday, July 24**

**Underhill Historical Society's 8<sup>th</sup> annual Blueberry and Ice Cream Social**, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Old Schoolhouse, 32 Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center. Bring your favorite blueberry dessert! The Historical Society will provide the ice cream, beverages, and music. Hope to see you there!

**Chittenden County Historical Society Annual Meeting**, 2:00 PM, Richard Kemp Center, 70 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Annual meeting, election of officers and board members, annual reports, award presentations, refreshments, and program: *The Pages and Kings of Archibald Street* presented by Elise A. Guyette, historian, and Rebekah Mortensen, educator and descendant. There will be a new historic marker going up soon in Burlington's Old North End to commemorate The Pates, Vermont's longest running entry in the Green Book. That book (1936-1966) helped Black motorists find places to stay, eat, and gas up the car, among other amenities. This talk encompasses the need for such a book in Vermont as well as the history of the Pates and Kings who ran the establishment on Archibald Street for many decades. Their complex story includes Buffalo Soldiers, illicit love affairs, a Black baseball team, and two Black-owned businesses run by the same family. In addition, descendants and a woman who worked for the Pates will be present for the question and answer period. More information: 802-985-3581.

### **Wednesday, July 27**

**Craft Group**, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, District 5 Schoolhouse, Pleasant Valley Rd. (corner of Stevensville Rd.), Underhill Center. Take a break from summer chores and enjoy some crafting for a few hours! Open to everyone and every craft. Gather your current craft project and join us for a couple of hours of socializing, and productivity of course! The group meets every two weeks. For

questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or [atowerinv@gmail.com](mailto:atowerinv@gmail.com).

### **Saturday, July 30**

**Contra Dance in the Meadow**, 4:00 – 8:00 PM, 621 Irish Settlement Rd., Underhill. All are invited to join Moose Mountain Maple for a Contra Dance in the beautiful meadow on Butler Farm. You don't have to know how to dance, but come ready to have fun! Bring a picnic dinner or bring cash for Mike's Famous Underhillbilly BBQ food truck on site. (All beverages must be in non-glass containers for the safety of the animals.) Please bring a lawn chair if you plan to stay for the bonfire after the dance. Parking will be in the field; just follow the signs from the mailbox at 621 Irish Settlement Rd. Luke Donforth will be calling, *Atlantic Crossing* will be playing live music, and Mike's Famous Underhillbilly BBQ will be cookin'. Bonfire to follow! Rain date is the next evening, July 31, same time.

**Clutter Barn Tag Sale**, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Clutter Barn, next to the United Church of Underhill, Park St., Underhill Flats. Summer clothes for all ages are half price in a tent behind the Barn. Also available: household items, electronics, music to play, kids' stuff, linens, craft supplies, sports equipment, and lots more.

### **Sunday, July 31**

**Community Tea at DRML**, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library garden, Jericho. You are invited to join the DRML staff for Tea and Light Refreshments to celebrate the library's theme garden in tribute to the lovely book *The Secret Garden*. The tea is a collaborative project between the Extension Master Gardeners and the DRML Trustees. Seating will be provided but feel free to bring your own favorite lawn chair. If you love *The Secret Garden* and would like to share a short reading, please leave your name at the circulation desk (802-899-4962) or contact Susan Adams, [sadams15@comcast.net](mailto:sadams15@comcast.net), with contact information and what selection you would be happy to share.

### **Monday, August 1**

**JULT Annual Meeting and Celebration**, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Mills Riverside Park Pavilion, Jericho (if raining, Jericho Community Center, Jericho Center). Come celebrate an extraordinary year of land conservation with Jericho Underhill Land Trust (JULT)! Refreshments and a half hour social opportunity will begin at 6:00 PM. Our short business meeting will commence at 6:30 PM and be followed by our guest speaker Craig Newman of Jericho, the current Director and co-founder of Outreach for Earth Stewardship (OFES). OFES offers unique educational programs that stimulate the mind and heart with the help of live raptors who serve as wild ambassadors. Founded in

1989, OFES's mission is to strengthen respect and understanding for wildlife. OFES is licensed by the State of Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department to rehabilitate wild birds and have them serve as animal ambassadors if they cannot be released.

### **Wednesday, August 10**

**Craft Group**, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Underhill Town Hall (upstairs), Underhill Center. Gather your current craft project and join us for a couple of hours of socializing, and productivity of course! The group meets every two weeks. All are welcome. For questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or [atowerinv@gmail.com](mailto:atowerinv@gmail.com).

### **Saturday, August 20**

**Poker Hill School turns 50!** 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Poker Hill School, Poker Hill Rd., Underhill. Welcoming Poker Hill families, alumni, and the entire Poker Hill community to celebrate 50 years of community and children! Live music, food trucks, fun for all ages. For more information: [@PokerHillSchoolCelebrates50](#) (Instagram); *Poker Hill School Celebrates 50* (Facebook event); <https://www.pokerhillschool.org/> (website).

## **Clutter Barn Tag Sale July 30**

The Clutter Barn's next tag sale is on Saturday, July 30, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM in the Barn next door to the United Church of Underhill on Park St. in Underhill Flats. Thanks to our donors, we have two floors and three tents full of gently used items... from the useful to the unique. Summer clothes for all ages are half price in a tent behind the Clutter Barn. We have household items, electronics, CDs, DVDs, LP, toys, books and games, puzzles, linens, fabric, crafts, sewing and knitting supplies, sports equipment, furniture, canning jars, tools, and other surprise items.

Besides sales at the Clutter Barn, books for adults are on sale at the Damkot barn on VT Rt. 15 (a block and a half from the Clutter Barn). Look for the painting of *Starry Night* on the barn doors.

Starting in August we accept fall and winter clothes, but no summer clothes. Our next donation days are Saturdays, August 6 and 13. The next Tag Sale is Saturday, August 27, and our final sale is at Harvest Market on Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25.

Thank you for supporting our mission of community service by donating and by purchasing useful and novelty items at our rock bottom prices.

### **Libraries continued from page 7**

at the library to get a decoder wheel and get started. Clues will lead you around the Common and to a "treasure."

Tuesday, August 2, 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Library: Crafternoon "Hodge Podge." Did you miss a Crafternoon? Enjoy making the leftover projects.

Wednesday, August 3, 4:30 – 6:30 PM in the Library: "Treasure Inside." Take things apart (toys, computers, appliances) and see what is inside, take it one step further and make cool art from what you find inside, if you like. Great for the mechanically curious.

Thursday, August 4: Summer Reading Logs due by 7:00 PM. Turn in at the library or online via google form.

Friday, August 5, 4:30 – 6:30 PM on the Common: End of Summer Ice Cream Party and Raffle. Celebrate the end of Summer Reading with "All You Should Eat" Ice cream! We will announce the winners of our Summer Reading Prize Drawing as well! You do not need to be present to win. Prizes can be picked up anytime at the library. Volunteer scoopers needed.

Find us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/westfordpubliclibrary](http://www.facebook.com/westfordpubliclibrary)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/WestfordVT\\_pl](http://www.twitter.com/WestfordVT_pl)). Bree Drapa, Librarian. 802-878-5639; <http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>; [westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com).

### **FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

We are asking everyone to please wear a face mask in the library. To help meet the needs of all library users, Curbside Pickup Services will be provided on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 – 7:00 PM upon request.

All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration required; please sign up at least one week before the program date; call 802-849-2420 or email [libraryfairfax@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfairfax@gmail.com).

#### *Youth events*

Wednesdays, July 20, 27, 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Time. Join us for stories and songs! Children's books will be available to check out as well. Before you leave, pick up an activity to make at home!

Wednesday, July 20, 1:00 PM: Plush Octopus. Learn how to make a cute, cuddly octopus friend! Ages 8+ Please contact [libraryfairfax@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfairfax@gmail.com) or 802-849-2420 to register!

Wednesday, July 27, 1:00 PM: Paper Pirate Ship. Make a model pirate ship! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Please contact [libraryfairfax@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfairfax@gmail.com) or 802-849-2420 to register!

#### *Adult events*

Thursday, July 21, 6:00 PM: "Woof! What's the Dog Saying?" Lecture with Deb Helfrich from Gold Star Dog Training! This is a fun, interactive, multimedia presentation where participants will learn about how dogs communicate with barks and body language. Please contact [libraryfairfax@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfairfax@gmail.com) or 802-849-2420 to register.

Summer Reading Challenge for Adults. Kids shouldn't be the only ones who get to have fun with the summer reading program! This year, we are doing a summer reading challenge for adults as well. Pick up your summer reading bingo card from the library, and complete the challenges to get a bingo and a prize!

Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM; Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM; and Saturdays 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website [www.libraryfairfax.org](http://www.libraryfairfax.org), where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar. 75 Hunt Street, Fairfax; 802-849-2420.

### **RICHMOND LIBRARY**

Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM; and Saturday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Our webpage, Facebook, and email reflect this information.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and

Mathematics) Kits: We have ten different kits ready for families to take home to provide young learners with introductory knowledge and skill building in important subject areas. Kits contain books, toys, games, tools, and instructions. Subjects include: The Universe, Robots and Coding, Money and Math, Food and Nutrition, Yoga, Music and Meditation, Backyard Bird Watching, Electricity, Structural Engineering, and Water Quality. Each kit lists an appropriate age/grade range though most are appropriate for PreK-3. Visit the picture book room to see what's available. STEAM Kits were made possible with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Launchpads are preloaded tablets that are curated with collections of learning apps and videos for young children and are ready to play right off the shelf. The simple, easy-to-use interface is 100% secure, and requires no download time or Wi-Fi. They offer a fun, interactive way for young children to build literacy, math, and life skills and can be used anytime, anywhere. Find them in the picture book room. Launchpads were purchased with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Melt away Mondays, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, Outdoor Summer Yoga Series: on the Library lawn, a gentle, flowing yoga class that incorporates breathwork and meditation. Open to all. Classes guided by Carrie Mailloux, RYT 200. By donation; proceeds to the Richmond Food Shelf.

Thursday, July 21, 7:00 PM, Mystery Book Group, in the library: *The Mountains Wild* by Sarah Stewart Taylor. "... a riveting thriller with a beating heart. [T]his beautifully wrought portrait of love and family, secrets and lies... dives deep into character, all the while ratcheting up the suspense..." All are welcome; books 0available one month ahead. Contact Maureen Parent, 802-434-2055 or [mparent@gmavt.net](mailto:mparent@gmavt.net), for information.

Weekly children's programs are taking a break for the summer months Baby Laptime, Storytime, and Playgroup resume in September.

The Summer Reading Program theme is *Oceans of Possibility* featuring the artwork of Sophie Blackall. Register at the library.

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM, Outdoor Arts and Crafts: Register kids ages 5-10 in advance for these programs; contact 802-434-3036 or [rfl@gmavt.net](mailto:rfl@gmavt.net). Events move inside for wet weather.

- July 20: Ojos de Dios: using sticks and colorful yarn weave your own "God's Eye," a traditional Mexican yarn craft that symbolizes the power of seeing and understanding things we normally cannot see;

- July 27: Paint a Puzzle: equipped with paints and brushes and inspired by the bold colors of summer, create your own 36-piece work of puzzle art.

Mondays, July 25, 11:00 AM: Big Book Storytime on the library lawn behind the building. Families are asked to bring their own blanket or chairs and snacks if they like. No registration needed. Storytime includes giant books with big bold pictures, rhymes, and songs. Rain location: in the Community Room.

Secret Message Scavenger Hunt: Pick up your secret message decoding sheet any time you're in the library and hunt for the letters on the walls and amongst the books. Once you know the secret message, deliver it to the youth desk on the second floor and receive a prize.

StoryWalk® outdoor reading experiences reveal a story, page by page, as the reader follows the StoryWalk route. There will be a new StoryWalk set up around the library grounds each month this summer. July: *Maisy Goes on Vacation* by Lucy Cousins.

Contact us at 802-434-3036 (leave a message after hours) or [rfl@gmavt.net](mailto:rfl@gmavt.net).

Richmond Free Library, 201 Bridge St., P.O. Box 997, Richmond, VT 05477; 802-434-3036; fax 802-434-3223; [www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org](http://www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org).

### **BROWNL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION**

Contact us at [frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org](mailto:frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org) or 802-878-

6955.

Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St., Essex Junction. Contact Main Desk 802-878-6955, Youth Desk 802-878-6956, Reference Desk 802-878-6957, or [frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org](mailto:frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org).

### **ESSEX FREE LIBRARY**

Open Monday-Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM and Saturday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Please check our website <http://essexfreelibrary.org> for special events, programs, and any holiday hours. Register or renew for an Essex Free Library Homecard in person or on our website <https://essexfreelibrary.org/RegisterForACard>.

Curbside pickup is available during our regular business hours.

We have books and more, with free WiFi services and public access computers, printing, copying, scanning, and faxing assistance as well. We are always happy to help guide you with reference questions, book recommendations, and with technology assistance on personal devices, social media, Zoom, etc. You can make an appointment or come on by!

Check out the dynamic collection of books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, magazines, large prints, book club sets, board games, puzzles, plus more.

With your Essex Free Library Homecard you also have access to museum passes, Interlibrary Loans, and the Library of Things with binoculars, pickleball sets, ukuleles, Playaways (pre-loaded audiobooks), kids' Launchpad tablets, DVD projector, Chromebooks, snowshoes, and more.

For digital resources, check out Overdrive/Libby, Consumer Reports, Mango Language, Universal Class, Learning Express, and the research databases with Vermont Online Library.

Summer is here and the Summer Reading Program for adults and children has begun. Please check our website for any special events. Our regular events are free unless noted. Some require pre-registration.

Monthly—First Thursdays, August 4, September 1: Noontime Book Discussion

Mondays through August 8: Weekly Storytime

Tuesdays through August 2: Weekly Exploration Station

Wednesdays through July 27: Make and Build (registration required)

Thursdays: weekly special events; check event calendar

Fridays: Take and Make Crafts (while supplies last)

Check out our website Events Calendar and [@essexfreelibrary](#) on social media for the latest!

Essex Free Library, 8

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### Jericho's first EV charging station

You may not have noticed, but Union Bank has recently installed Jericho's first electric vehicle (EV) charging station at our branch at 368 VT Rt. 15 (right next to the Jericho Market). The EV station contains two Chargepoint level 2 chargers which work with any EV, once you have downloaded the Chargepoint app (note, Teslas require an adapter). The charging cost is currently .19 cents per/kwh, which equates to about \$2.51 for two hours of charging.

You can feel good about charging your EV at Union Bank knowing the bank's solar panels are supplying clean, renewable energy back into the grid. We've also installed EV stations at our Jeffersonville, Morrisville (Main St.) and Williston branches.

### UWay, VT state program donates firewood, seeks volunteers

United Way of Lamoille County and the State of Vermont Forest, Parks, and Recreation Department, in conjunction with Department of Children and Families Heating and Utility Assistance Program, donate log length wood from trees cut on state land in and around the Lamoille County area. The firewood lot is located at 595 Bridge St., Morrisville.

On average, 125 volunteers are needed each year for this project. Many local companies give their employees time to volunteer on this project.

For more information on this project, contact 802-888-3252 [unitedway@uwlamoille.org](mailto:unitedway@uwlamoille.org).

In 2021, over 60 cords of firewood were provided to seniors, veterans, and families who were income-eligible. This incredible feat was made possible by many donors and 133 volunteers offering 458 hours!

Volunteers are needed to block, split, stack and deliver firewood to our neighbors. People with chainsaws, wood splitters and trucks are essential. In 2022, Service Days include Saturday, August 13, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM; and Saturday-Sunday, September 10-11, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

On Sunday, 9/11, a moment of silence will be held at 8:48 AM, and at 9:00 AM the woodlot will be dedicated to Gary R. Wright. Gary was a true champion of the firewood program and offered countless hours over the years.

If you are interested in volunteering, go online to <https://uwlamoille.org/getinvolved/page.html>. Please indicate if you are bringing a chainsaw, wood splitter, and/or a truck for deliveries.

If you are interested in donating to help keep our neighbors warm this winter, please to online to <https://uwlamoille.org/how-to-help/donate.html>.

### Essex Jericho Underhill Food Shelf

The Hannaford store located at 78 Marshall Ave., Williston will donate \$1 to the Essex Jericho Underhill Food Shelf from each purchase of a \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag during the month of July. If you shop in Williston please consider this.

The Food Shelf is also grateful to the Essex Hannaford, Price Chopper in Essex, and the Jericho Market for providing donation bins for food staples, and to the Jericho Settlers Farm for monthly donations of fresh produce.

If you have garden produce to share, the next food distribution date will be Saturday, August 20 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho from 9:00 – 10:30 AM. Produce should be delivered to the church by 8:00 AM on those morning, unless by prior arrangement.

### MMCTV videos: MMU graduation; Richmond July 4 parade

By Angelique A. Contis, MMCTV

Maybe you enjoyed our livestream of Mount Mansfield Union High School's recent graduation ceremony, but now you can watch Mount Mansfield Community TV's final edited version of the event, with footage from several cameras. Here's the link: <https://archive.org/details/MMUGraduation2022Final>. DVDs are available, \$15 each; contact [mmctv15@gmail.com](mailto:mmctv15@gmail.com) for details.

MMCTV's crew recorded Richmond's lively return to its parade tradition: check out <https://archive.org/details/RichmondJuly4Parade2022> to see the fun run and parade!

### Climate planning and action in Underhill

Needed: one more person to serve on the seven-member Underhill Climate Change Task Force.

What will Underhill be like with a different climate? Are there ways we can prepare for these changes and still be a vibrant rural community? The Climate Change Task Force will study and make recommendations to the Planning Commission on where to direct our efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions, support renewable energy options, protect and adapt our natural resources, and prepare our community for climate changes.

You can help be part of the solution by volunteering to participate as a Task Force member, or by attending the monthly Climate Change Task Force meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Sandy Wilmot, [sandy.wilmot@yahoo.com](mailto:sandy.wilmot@yahoo.com).

### Seeking host families for exchange students

Will you open your heart and home? FLAG is looking for host families for students 15-18 years old, for the 2022-2023 school year. If you're curious about what's involved, please contact Emily Heath, [epaula@flag-intl.org](mailto:epaula@flag-intl.org), for more information.

You do not have to have a teen of your own to host. Single parents, parents of young children, couples with no children, empty nesters — all make great host parents!

Our exchange students have their own spending money and health insurance. We ask host families to provide three meals per day, a place to store their things (dresser and/or closet), a non-portable bed, and to treat the student like one of your own.

Students are expected to help out around the house and to be an active member of their host family.

Below are descriptions of some of the available students. I'd be happy to help you find a great match!

Domonkos is a boy from Hungary who enjoys hiking, skiing, gliding, playing computer games, tennis, cycling, swimming, ice skating, and golf. He is described as a kind, respectful person who enthusiastically takes part in community events.

Martina is a girl from Italy who loves volleyball. She's an excellent student who is motivated and outgoing. Besides volleyball, she likes basketball, ice skating, dancing, reading, watching movies, and surfing. She loves animals, especially dogs.

Maxime is a mature and easy-going boy from France who loves soccer, volleyball, and tennis. In his free time, he also likes reading, watching sports, and going to theme parks. He's excited to try a new activity such as basketball while on program.

Lili is a cheerful, motivated, and mature girl from Hungary who likes pets. She enjoys swimming, skiing, horseback riding, playing the piano, drawing, and going to the movies. She can't wait to learn who her American family will be!

### Volunteer Opportunities with United Way

**LEND A HAND. VOLUNTEER** — United Way's Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers. Agencies are working hard to navigate volunteering during this time, but opportunities are increasing. To learn more about these and other opportunities, go online to Volunteer Connection at <https://unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com/>.

**HELP PLAN** — Pathways Vermont has been selected as a partner and beneficiary of the Second Annual Faith United Methodist Flea Market & Tag Sale in S. Burlington on Saturday, September 24. They need a few volunteers to join the Planning Committee. This is a short-term opportunity to help create a successful event that will support the many individuals and families who benefit from Pathway's programs. Contact Maria Moore, [maria@pathwaysvermont.org](mailto:maria@pathwaysvermont.org), to learn more.

**RESTORING JUSTICE** — Burlington Community Justice Center provides an alternative to traditional justice systems by engaging both responsible and affected parties in conversation to foster an agreement to repair the damage done to those affected by crime. They are looking for volunteers, age 21 and older, to meet with the parties to determine why the crime was committed, what its impact was, what is needed to make things right, and what skills and support are needed to move forward positively. Contact Kelly Ahrens, [kahrens@burlingtonvt.gov](mailto:kahrens@burlingtonvt.gov).

**JOIN THE TEAM** — Green Mountain Habitat ReStores need volunteers to join their electronic testing team, which tests everything from juke box speakers to coffee makers to computer monitors. Monday, Wednesday, and/or Friday for two to three hours. Some experience helpful but not required. Contact Bridget Mientka, [bmientka@vermonthabitat.org](mailto:bmientka@vermonthabitat.org) or 802-598-0355.

**EVENT VOLUNTEERS** — Maquam Bay of Missisquoi is looking for volunteers to assist at scheduled events at the Tribal office in Swanton. Tasks include directing visitors, signing in, serving food, and more. Contact Chantel Bockus, [info@abenakination.com](mailto:info@abenakination.com) or 802-868-6255.

**BRING A MEAL** — COTS (Committee on Temporary Shelter) invites volunteer individuals and groups to prepare a well-balanced meal for up to 25 people and deliver it to the Daystation. Volunteers can also prepare a meal in the Daystation kitchen. Soups, casseroles, roasts, fruit and low-sugar desserts are always enjoyed! Visit [https://cotsonline.org/volunteer/lunch/?fbclid=IwAR2ZVniNfpwxktUa4HrZU\\_F4CxBKch6RhrbPko1Zb8KW3cwGXFdpBwlhjA](https://cotsonline.org/volunteer/lunch/?fbclid=IwAR2ZVniNfpwxktUa4HrZU_F4CxBKch6RhrbPko1Zb8KW3cwGXFdpBwlhjA)

### 75% off weatherization projects from Efficiency Vermont

It may be the middle of summer... but we all know winter is coming...

Thanks to actions taken by the Vermont Legislature and Gov. Phil Scott allocating federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars to Efficiency Vermont, weatherization rebates have been increased to 75% off your project cost, up to \$5000 for most Vermonters (or up to \$2000 for higher income Vermonters).

Not only can weatherization help keep heating expenses down in the winter, it also keeps your home cooler in the summer. An Efficiency Vermont Excellence Network contractor can air seal and insulate key areas of your home that are notorious for air leaks (that stops heated or air conditioned air from escaping out of small openings in your home... usually in the attic and basement). That means your home will stay a more comfortable temperature year-round (instead of paying \$\$\$ to heat or cool the outdoors).

Find out more about getting 75% off your projects costs at <http://www.efficiencyvermont.com/hp>.

This offer will only be available while funding lasts, and contractor schedules are already filling up for the fall.

If you've thought of weatherizing your home in the past but were discouraged by the cost, now is the time to take another look!

### Drive electric and cut carbon and costs

Green Mountain Power (GMP) offers rebates up to \$2500 (including an extra \$1000 for low/moderate income customers) that can be combined with dealer incentives, up to \$4000 in rebates from the state of Vermont, plus a federal tax credit on some models up to \$7500. EV drivers also save thousands in reduced maintenance costs compared to driving a fossil fuel vehicle. Learn more about GMP EV rebates details at <https://greenmountainpower.com/rebates-programs/electric-vehicles/ev-rebate/>

GMP's discount EV charging rates make charging at home the equivalent of paying about \$1/gallon, and they're designed to reduce costs for all GMP customers. Details: <https://greenmountainpower.com/rebates-programs/electric-vehicles/ev-charging-rates/>

To enroll, you'll need a compatible Level 2 EV charger at home, and we will give you one free to use while you're a GMP customer in our home charging program! Free charger details:

<https://greenmountainpower.com/rebates-programs/electric-vehicles/in-home-ev-charger/>.

Transportation is the top source of carbon emissions in Vermont, so by switching to electric you'll make a big difference! Have questions? Call 888-835-4672.

### Josh's story: ICAN helped me — it can help you

By VT Dept. For Children And Families

In 2015, because of the lack of work and a housing crisis, 33-year-old Josh found himself in a difficult situation with no job, no stable housing, and few resources.

So he applied for and received 3SquaresVT, a federal program that provides everyone who is eligible with money they can use to buy food. Getting this benefit every month helped make sure he had enough food to eat.

While getting this benefit, he was introduced to the Individual Career Advancement Network (ICAN), a program that provides free employment and training supports to people getting 3Squares VT.

"If you're in a good space and ready to move forward, ICAN can really empower and support you. This is fundamental, especially if you don't have any support. I had a vision of what I wanted and went over that with ICAN. They are supportive of who you are and what you want to do. That is how this program really stands out," said Josh.

Taylor was Josh's point of contact at ICAN. She helped Josh to write his cover letter and resume, land the job he still has today, and find stable, affordable housing.

"Taylor was incredibly helpful and kind. She is a really amazing person to work with. She helped guide me through the process with empathy and understanding. I wish everyone could use this program. It was a great experience."

If you get 3SquaresVT, you are eligible for ICAN. They can help you develop a plan that meets your goals, as they did with Josh.

If you are ready to further your career, don't wait. Reach out now via <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ican> and <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/3SquaresVT>.

### Survey to help CSWD create a new website

The Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) is working on a new website that better serves your needs, and we need your help! Please take a few minutes to help us understand not only how you use our current website, but also how you think about the recycling and disposal process. Our intent is to design a digital helper that gives you the support you need, when you need it, in ways that make sense to you.

Please complete the survey before 5:00 PM on Friday, July 22. Thank you for your time, and for your commitment to CSWD's mission of reducing the solid waste in our county in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective and economical manner.

Find the CSWD Website Survey online at <https://gravityworksdd.optimallworkshop.com/questions/41d791422bc163e80e48f93241396f51>

### Contribute to Cambridge Rotary at no cost to you

Did you know that Amazon shoppers can automatically generate a contribution to the Cambridge Area Rotary Foundation, and it won't cost you a penny?

Of course, we want everyone to shop locally and support our wonderful businesses, but sometimes they might not have what you need. We know that many people shop on Amazon, so we are asking for your (free) support.

The program is called AmazonSmile. When you shop at <https://smile.amazon.com/charity?orig=%2F> they will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to your favorite charitable organization — no fees, no extra cost. It only takes a minute or two to sign up and designate "Cambridge Area Rotary Foundation" as your favorite charity. Then all you have to do is remember to go to <https://smile.amazon.com/charity?orig=%2F> instead of the regular address. Everything else about your account remains the same, and Amazon's contribution is automatic.

For detailed information about signing up for AmazonSmile, please go to <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/4785/page/amazon-smile>. If you need assistance with signing up, please contact [rotary@markschilling.com](mailto:rotary@markschilling.com).

Thanks for supporting your Cambridge Area Rotary, and the services we provide locally, in our region, and on an international level.

## OBITUARY

**Nancy Jean Blow (Carrier)**, 65, of Jericho, VT passed away peacefully on Friday, July 1, 2022 at the University of Vermont's McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, VT. Born September 29, 1956, she was the fifth of ten children born to Leo Jr. and Roxie Carrier. She graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School in Jericho in 1974. On December 18, 1976 Nan married Wendell Blow and together they made their home in Jericho where they raised two children and three grandchildren. She loved her home, crafting, and her cocker spaniels. She had a very large family and will be so, so missed. Nan leaves her husband of almost 46 years, Wendell Blow; her daughter Dana Blow; her son Bradley Blow; her grandchildren Austin, Christopher, Mercedes, Riley, and Bailey; and her great-granddaughter Emma. She also leaves her sisters Donna Carrier, Amy Carrier, Jo Jacobs (Randy), Patricia Hynek (Paul), Agnes Hill, Debra Ennis (Bob), and Tina Carrier; and her brothers Leo Carrier III (Laurie) and Mark Carrier (Diana); and many nieces and nephews. It should also be mentioned that Nan had a very special relationship with her niece Jaime Jacobs. They spent countless hours together crafting, playing cards and Scrabble... she was like a second mother to Jaime. Nan was preceded in death by her parents, her brother-in-law Gregory Hill, and by her very special cocker spaniels Sally and Toby. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 7023, Merrifield, VA 22116-7023.

## ARTS / MUSIC / THEATER



**You say brass, we say Balagan.** *The quintessential BTV street band marches up Church St., Burlington in the Foolish Parade on Friday, August 5 at 5:30 PM as part of Burlington City Arts' (BCA's) Festival of Fools. In their signature red suites and blaring their horns, the band trumpets in the opening of festivities as other performers and festival friends accompany the procession. Other musical acts booked for the Festival include Aquamossa, an ethereal electric pop ensemble from Burlington; Barika, who perform music described as "indie/polyrhythmic ethereal dub-scaped soaked in psychedelic, West-African resonance;" Beg, Steal, or Borrow, a bluegrass quintet known for warm harmonies, virtuosic instrumentals, tight musical interplay; Brattleboro's DiTrani Brothers, playing music drawing influence from western and Eastern-European folk music, Roma swing, and early American jazz and ragtime; Saint Mela; Colombian stars Monsieur Periné; the Soggy Po' Boys, a New Hampshire-based New Orleans-flavored septet; Vieux Farka Touré, son of a legendary Malian guitar player; Wild Leek River, from northern Vermont; and folksinger Willie Watson. For more information about these musicians and all of the many other activities and attractions of the Festival of Fools: <https://vermontfestivaloffools.com>.*

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**The Emile A Gruppe Gallery**, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho is currently showing at an exhibition of acrylic paintings by local artist Robert W. Brunelle. The show, titled *The Old Neighborhood*, will hang through Sunday, July 31. The Old Neighborhood is Robert's hometown of Rutland, VT, where his family has lived since 1908. When Robert was in college he worked as the docent of the Rutland Historical Society Museum, and helped to write their history book *Rutland In Retrospect* in 1976. Robert has collected 19<sup>th</sup> century photography since he was a child, and some of the paintings in this show are inspired by glass plate negatives from his collection. A common theme in all of his art is a longing for the past, and the mysteries of the passage of time. Gallery hours: Thursday-Sunday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM or by appointment, 802-899-3211.

**Essex Art League at the Old Red Mill in Jericho:** Ever wonder what your friends and neighbors are up to in the Essex Art League? This summer in July and August you can see a stunning display of original, local art by members of the Essex Art League. Various two-dimensional mediums will be represented in pieces of all sizes. Not only will you see and enjoy local art, it is available for purchase at reasonable prices. Art, both small and large makes wonderful gifts. A portion of

### FINANCE OFFICER

The Town of Cambridge seeks a Finance Officer to work under the direction of the Selectboard, and is responsible for the planning, directing and controlling of the finance and accounting functions of the Town. A College degree with coursework in Accounting and/or Business Administration is preferred with a minimum of five years of relevant accounting and finance experience, preferably in a governmental setting. This is a part-time position averaging 20 hours per week with the option of a hybrid arrangement.

See the full job description on the town website for more information. (<https://www.cambridge.vermont.gov/employment/index.php>)

Town of Cambridge Employment Applications and Resumes may be submitted to Town Administrator Jonathan DeLaBruere at [townadmin@cambridgevt.org](mailto:townadmin@cambridgevt.org).

### TOWN OF JERICHO- DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Jericho Development Review Board will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on WEDNESDAY August 10, 2022 at the Jericho Town Hall to consider the following.

- A request to the DRB by Wayne & Audrey Hendee for a Final Plat review for a proposed two lot PUD. This property is located at 161 Browns Trace which is in the Low-Density Residential Zone District

All interested persons may appear and be heard. Additional information related to this application may be viewed at the Jericho Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours.

Chris Flinn  
Zoning Administrator  
[cflinn@jerichovt.gov](mailto:cflinn@jerichovt.gov)

the proceeds from the sales helps support the Jericho Historical Society. Enjoy the show!

**The Westford Music Series** of concerts all take place on the Common on Sundays at 7:00 PM. Free will donation. For more information: 802-363-0930. The line-up for Westford's summer concerts is:

- July 24: *Atom and the Orbit*
- July 31: *Shellhouse*
- August 7: *Rockin' Round Table*
- August 14: *McCaffrey, Coane, and Rowell*
- August 21: *Emma Cook*

**Mills Riverside Park Summer Concert Series:** Come celebrate the best of summer at the Mills Riverside Park Summer Concert Series! All performances are on Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Bring a picnic and relax to excellent music in a beautiful, natural setting! Please email the Park District at [jupdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:jupdistrict@gmail.com) with any questions. Weather cancellations will be posted on our Mills Riverside Park Facebook page, website, and on the sidewalk sign at the park entrance.

July 20: *The Stragglers* will be bringing their "Old- and New-time String Band Sound" to the park this summer. Their repertoire ranges from Appalachian fiddle tunes through vintage country, bluegrass, and their own varied original compositions. Their sound has been described by *Seven Days* as both "unrelentingly mature" and "tastefully evocative." Come see for yourself! *The Stragglers* are Eric Bushey (banjo/electric guitar/vocals), Rusty Charpentier (fiddle/guitar/vocals), Preston Randall (mandolin, electric and acoustic guitar/vocals), and Justin Bedell (fretless bass/vocals).

July 27: The *Buck Hollers Band* is a high-energy group that loves connecting with audiences. They offer an eclectic mix of popular and little-known rock-n-roll, R&B, folk, country, bluegrass, newgrass, Americana, and Irish music. Decades of musical experience are blended with guitar, banjo, bass, harmonica, percussion, keyboard, and four-part harmony into a professionally engineered sound mix and a good dose of humor that appeals to all ages. They've delivered tight rhythms, sweet harmonies, head-turning a cappella, witty lyrics, and great comedy throughout northern Vermont and New York since 2015.

August 3: The *Robin Gottfried Band* offers memorable song craftsmanship and recognizable vocals all brought together by soulful and interpretive playing, making the music from the *Robin Gottfried Band* worth hearing again and again. The paradox of chops cultivated in NYC but nurtured within the beauty of Vermont offers listeners a full and enlivened experience of sound and emotion. There is a strong individual identity derived from 11 released albums, yet hints of early *Steely Dan*, *Little Feat*, Joni Mitchell, Sting, Bruce Hornsby, or *The Beatles*, to name a few, can't be denied. Veteran musicians, bassist Brad Sourdiffe, and drummer Ian Koeller, invoke a vitality that resonates as sincere and infectious. It's clear Robin Gottfried and his band enjoy the music they make and the fellowship of the creative process!

**2022 Stowe Jewish Film Festival coming in July:** The 2022 Stowe Jewish Film Festival (SJFF) is back in person this year! After two years of a virtual festival due to the pandemic, SJFF will present a hybrid festival in 2022, combining in-person and virtual screenings for four films. This year's theme is *The Jewish Experience*: a multiplicity of cultures, languages, countries, traditions, and colors. Patterns of immigration have taken Jews all over the world, melding and merging, creating hybrid cultures and complex identities.

The 2022 SJFF features films exploring the dramatic journey of Jews from Ethiopia to their new home in Israel; the

### NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

**At The Children's Institute at Jericho Inc.**, we value all individuals, and we welcome the variety of experiences everyone brings to our school.

As such, we have a strict non-discrimination policy. We believe everyone should be treated equally regardless of race, color, sex, gender identification, sexual orientation, national origin, ethnic origin, native language, religion, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, genetic information, lineage, history, pregnancy, or any other characteristic protected by law.

relationship of members of a Texas Jewish merchant family with their Mexican neighbors at the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; the lives of the few remaining members of the ancient Jewish community of Cochin, India; and the Cuban/Latin music and dance scene in '50s and '60s NYC and the Catskills.

Tickets for all films are available to purchase online through the festival's marketing partner Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, online at <https://www.sprucepeakarts.org/stowe-jewish-film-festival-2022/>.

Thursday, July 21, 7:00 PM: *Unraveling* at the Big Picture, Waitsfield. "Did Pancho Villa really try to kill my grandfather?" While attempting to unravel a family mystery, the filmmaker reveals a dynamic story of borderland relations between a Texas Jewish merchant family and their Mexican neighbors at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Wednesday, July 27, 7:00 PM: *The Missing Tale* at Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, Stowe. A sensitive and intimate portrait of the few remaining members of the ancient Jewish community of Cochin, India.

Sunday, July 31, 7:00 PM: *Mamoniks Ahora!* at Jewish Community of Greater Stowe (JCGOS) in Stowe. A wonderfully entertaining story about the irresistible appeal of music and dance. Crossing geographic and cultural boundaries, the Mambo became a sensational trend in the '50s among Jews in New York, Miami, and the Catskills.

Following the film screening, we will celebrate the finale of the seventh season of the Stowe Jewish Film Festival in the JCOGS tent with a free dessert buffet and a dance party with a DJ and Mambo/Salsa dance instructor. Get out your dancing shoes and join us!

**Art in the Park:** A small group of Underhill and Jericho residents has been incubating the idea of art in the parks, specifically Mills Riverside Park and the Jericho Center Green. The idea is to create some sculptures reflective of the history of out towns and that will also enhance the park experience. The group would welcome participation from the community in joining the group or by donations. An application has been submitted to the Vermont Arts Council and is in the final stages of acceptance. There will be a need for more resources and input from the community. Please contact Kirk Peterson, [kirkmakespizza@gmail.com](mailto:kirkmakespizza@gmail.com) or 802-338-6520, for details of the next meeting.

**Summer Paint-and-Sip series**, by Heather Rodriguez, Westford Recreation Coordinator: Westford Rec presents a Summer Paint-and-Sip series on Fridays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Red Brick Meeting House on Westford Common. Register to guarantee a seat, or drop in; \$20 per session. July 22, kids: Mount Mansfield at sunset; July 29, adults: lake sunset with pines; August 12 and 19, adults: a pig with black-eyed Susans; August 26, adults: a garden gnome. Adults BYOB; kids' juice boxes provided! Drop off for ages 6+. Please register at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJog47jBVaT4aqYdvs\\_anNoksKuk\\_nq9Qc2jBz5vO6AcKFYAvewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJog47jBVaT4aqYdvs_anNoksKuk_nq9Qc2jBz5vO6AcKFYAvewform).

**Artist Development Grants:** Artist Development Grants support Vermont artists at all stages of their careers. Grants can fund activities that enhance mastery of an artist's craft or skills or that increase the viability of an artist's business. Open to applications in July. To learn more, go online to <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/artists/artist-development>.

**Trucks, Taps & Tunes at the Essex Experience:** Come on down to The Essex Experience (21 Essex Way, Essex) Wednesdays, 5:00 – 8:00 PM, this summer (through August 24) for Trucks, Taps, & Tunes, our weekly series of free outdoor live music, food trucks, and beer on The Green! Each week we'll have a different band or performer with rotating food trucks in attendance! The weekly music lineup is as follows: July 20: *Andriana Chobot*; July 27: *Raised By Hippies*; August 3: *Brickdrop*; August 10: *Hard Scrabble*; August 17: *Al's Pals*; August 24: *Sneey*. For more information, go online to <http://EssexExperience.com>.

**Visions of Vermont Fine Art Galleries** (current hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM). Now showing through Sunday, November 6 at the Carriage Barn: Work by Eric Tobin and other local and regional *plein air* painters.

**Essex Art League is turning 50!** The Essex Art League is having its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. We are reaching out to former members to please send us an email ([annettebauerle@gmail.com](mailto:annettebauerle@gmail.com)) — include your memories, stories, or anecdotes from when you were a member. If you are interested in displaying your art at the Champlain Valley Fair, we are the featured artists! Let us know if you'd like to come to our Thursday, September 1 Reunion/Celebration at the Congregational Church in Essex Junction, 9:00 – 11:00 AM. And, if you know of a former member, please pass this message on.

**Milton Artists Guild has a variety of upcoming workshops!** Introduction to Abstract Painting: Saturday, July 23, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM; Clay Whistles: Sunday, July 24, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM; Introduction to Still Life Painting: Saturday, July 30, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; Introduction to drawing with charcoal and chalk: Sunday, July 31, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM; Cartoons, caricatures, and book illustrations: Sunday, August 14, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM; Introduction to Acrylic Painting: Sunday, September 18 and 25, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. To sign up for a workshop, go online to <https://www.miltonartistsguildstore.com/workshops>.

**BCA Family Art Saturday:** join BCA on Saturday, July 23, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Education Studio, to get creative and make art as a family in an art activity that connects with the *More Than an Object* exhibition. Create your own air-dry clay sculptures of everyday objects that hold special meaning to you. Free and open to the public.

**BCA's 15<sup>th</sup> Festival of Fools** will be held Friday-Sunday, August 5-7, Church St. and beyond, Burlington. Per Webster, a fool is "a person lacking judgment or prudence. Over 100 free performances by acrobats, jugglers, and musicians, including acrobatic archer *Sara Twister*; *El Gleno Grande* riding his ambiguously real horse (it's pretend), the *FLIP* family of cirque acrobats from Québec; *Snap Boogie* from Boston. Musicians include: *Monsieur Periné*; *Vieux Farka Touré*, the "Jimi Hendrix of the Sahara;" *Saint Mela*; and country groups *Wild Leek River*, *Beg Steal or Borrow*, and *Willy Watson* of *Old Crow Medicine Show*. All events are free. For the full lineup and more information, go online to <https://vermontfestivaloffools.com>.

**CAMPS**

**Girls basketball camp August 7-11 at NVU-Johnson:** NVU-Johnson Women's Basketball is hosting a basketball camp Sunday-Thursday, August 7-11, with overnight (\$425) and day (\$275) options for girls going into grades 5-12. This is a great way to get ready for the upcoming fall/winter basketball season for our local basketball players!

For more camp specific information, pricing, and registration links, please visit <http://NVUBadgers.com/camps-clinics>.

**MMU Lacrosse Camp for kids rising grades 2-8, August 15-19:** Rising 2<sup>nd</sup> graders through rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join the Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU) Boys' Lacrosse coaching staff and players this summer for a week of skill development and fun in the sun!

MMU head coach Brian Hamm and the high school lacrosse program members will be running a summer camp at Browns River Middle School (location might need to be adjusted if a conflict arises), 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Monday, August 15-Friday, August 19. The cost of the week is \$75 per camper and all the money brought in will help fund the MMU Boys' Lacrosse program.

To register, please fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/2NUdt8Gn9N5NZosw5>.

Campers will need: helmet; stick; gloves; shoulder pads (must meet NOCSAE ND200 certification); arm guards; protective cup; water bottle; cleats recommended.

Questions? Contact [hammfam728@gmail.com](mailto:hammfam728@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you this summer!

**MMU Youth Field Hockey Camp:** Interested in learning the game of Field Hockey or polishing the skills you already have? Come join us for MMU Youth Field Hockey (MMUFH) Youth Camp, Monday-Friday, August 22-26! The camp is open to all 2022/2023 school year K-8 Rockstars, and is coached by MMU Field Hockey's coaching staff, alumni players, and current MMUFH athletes.

For information and our registration form, go online to <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1q6jDFBlVcCMhCpBLchn7BePchK7Z3PcD/view>

**YMCA Summer Day Camp in Underhill:** The YMCA's Camp Koda offers one-week sessions for children who have completed kindergarten through age 12. Parents have three- or five-day options and, as a licensed program, eligible families can use state subsidy for this camp. Y financial assistance may also be available. Learn more and register at <https://www.gbymca.org/summer-camps/camp-koda>.

Each week has a different theme, so campers who come for multiple weeks remain engaged and develop skills, gain confidence, and build positive relationships with peers and adults through creative, age-appropriate, and safe activities through recreational play and hands-on activities. Learn more and register at <https://www.gbymca.org/summer-camps/camp-koda>.

**Westford Recreation summer program** sign up is open! View the Westford Recreation Summer Guide and registration form online at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>. For information on the programs, contact Westford Recreation at [recreation@westfordvt.us](mailto:recreation@westfordvt.us). The summer programs are all at Westford School, unless otherwise noted.

**Cambridge CC Buck Lake Camp:** The Cambridge Conservation Commission (CCC) would like to help send your child to the VT Fish and Wildlife's Green Mountain Conservation Camp at Buck Lake.

Camp runs in one-week sessions in July and August for boys and girls, ages 12-14. Please send an email to Conservation Commission Member Tim Larned, [timlarned@myfairpoint.net](mailto:timlarned@myfairpoint.net), stating why you would like to go and what you love about the outdoors, to be considered for scholarship. The amount of the scholarship will be determined by the number of applicants. Scholarships are awarded until funds are gone. Camp spots fill fast so please respond ASAP.

Campers will meet game wardens, foresters, fisheries and wildlife biologists, and others who work in the outdoors. Activities include learning about forestry, wetland ecology, orienteering, outdoor safety skills, fly fishing and spin casting, fly tying, archery, hiking and camping, canoeing, swimming, firearm safety, and more. Campers will receive State Hunter Education and Bow Hunter Certifications at the completion of the week.

For more information about the camp and specific dates, go to [www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com).

**New horseback riding camps in Underhill:** Impulsion Riding School, previously Synchrony Dressage Riding School, has moved to Poker Hill Road in Underhill. We offer beginner through advanced lessons, camps, and horsemanship/show teams. There are single-day camps for kids ages 5-6, and multiple day camps for ages 7-12. All camps run 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM, and are limited to eight kids per day. Dates: Monday, August 8; Tuesday-Friday, August 9-12. For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/110786301545451/posts/123045810319500/?d=n>.

**Summer Camp at Green River Reservoir: Water Wanders.** On the first day, we pack up our canoes with gear and food and head out to a remote campsite with no electricity, running water, or buildings. We set up tents, tarps, and a cooking area, which becomes our home for the week. Explore Green River Reservoir State Park and learn about fire building, knot tying, canoeing, swimming, ecology, environmental justice, and equity. Only 12 people per session including counselors. Water Wanders offers two camps for young people ages 9-12 Monday-Friday, July 25-29 and August 1-5. Find out more and register at <http://waterwanders.org> or reach out to us directly at [waterwanders@gmail.com](mailto:waterwanders@gmail.com) or 802-730-9667. Spaces are limited. Secure your spot!

**Lamoille Natural Resource Conservation Summer Camp:** At the camp located on Cole Hill Road in Morrisville, kids will spend the days learning through hands-on exploration at our 40 acres forest reserve. Camp groups are capped at 10-12 kids and run from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The cost per camper: \$225 for LCCD members and \$275 for non-members; scholarships are available. This year we are offering Wild Art, a collaborative camp with River Arts (8-12 year olds, July 25-29). For more information and to register, go online to <https://lcrcd.com/summer-camps/>.

**Green Mountain Conservation Camp Sponsorships:** GMCC, operated by VT Fish & Wildlife since 1966, is open to any child 12-14 years old interested in the natural world and in joining a welcoming community. Financial aid is available to cover full cost. To learn more, contact 802-522-2925 or [FWGMCC@vermont.gov](mailto:FWGMCC@vermont.gov), or go online to <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/node/244>.

**SCHOOL NEWS****Adopt a backpack**

Through Monday, August 15 you can donate school supplies for children in our community. Donations can be dropped off at Deborah Rawson Memorial Library in Jericho, or the drop box on the front porch at 20 Tillotson Dr., Jericho.

A donation of \$25 will fill a backpack. A donation of \$100 will help purchase scientific calculators. Pick up of supplies, monetary donations and questions can be directed to LuAnn Clarke, 802-355-0645.

Here is a list of supplies: note book paper, single-subject spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, pocket file folders, graph paper, 1" binders, glue sticks, eraser/eraser tops, colored pencils (12pk), colored markers (10pk), backpack, crayons (24pk), highlighters, ruler, pencils, pens, index cards, scissors, calculators (TI84), pencil case, personal size hand sanitizer.

**Westford School news**

**School calendar:** Westford School is beginning the summer work necessary to be ready for another great school year. Teachers have spent much of a week in curriculum camps and will work in July on updating the school schedule to reflect improvement in our Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports. Summer facility upgrades, cleaning, and maintenance are underway.

School hours in the school year 2022/23 will be 8:10 AM – 3:10 PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, Wednesdays 8:10 AM – 2:10 PM (Early Release Wednesdays).

**Busing update:** Mountain Transit will provide transportation for all K-12 grade students in the Essex-Westford School District in 2022/23. We will run three K-8 bus routes in the morning and four K-12 bus routes in the afternoon. In order to run bus routes as efficiently as possible, adjust to staffing challenges, keep the length of routes reasonable, and in order to provide consistent transportation for K-12 students, several changes needed to take place. This impacted the number of bus routes, the grade span of the students on those routes, and the start and end times of our day.

Specifically, there will be three morning bus routes to school next year. Those three routes will provide transportation for all K-8 students who wish to ride the bus. Buses will arrive at 8:10 AM at the beginning of the school day. The length and times of routes will be determined by the number of stops. The transportation office will send out routes and stop times in mid-August, once they have all the family signup information and all the possible drivers hired. It cannot be stressed enough how

**SPORTS****Adult pick-up soccer at MRP**

Adult pickup soccer is back in action at Mills Riverside Park in Jericho, Sundays at 8:00 AM. We typically play 5v5 or 7v7 on the mini pitches. All skill levels and genders are welcome, come join us for some fun and exercise!

Feel free to reach out ([ngruemathews@tutamail.com](mailto:ngruemathews@tutamail.com)) with questions and to get on our email list we use to coordinate numbers/weather.

**Parent and Me T-Ball in Westford**

The Westford Recreation Department is excited to offer this program for kids ages 3-6 and their parent(s) on Saturday mornings this summer. Join us for drills and games that focus on the FUN-damentals of baseball and softball. There is a \$25 fee for season: Saturdays, through August 20, 9:00 – 10:00 AM at the Westford School Softball Field.

Sign up at [www.westfordvt.us/recreation](https://www.westfordvt.us/recreation).

**Family bike rides, beginner hikes in Cambridge**

Join the Cambridge Recreation Board this summer for a series of bi-weekly family bike rides and beginner hikes. We'll explore local trails in Cambridge and in neighboring towns. Please register in advance: [https://www.cambridge.vermont.gov/cambridge\\_at\\_a\\_glance/recreation\\_board.php](https://www.cambridge.vermont.gov/cambridge_at_a_glance/recreation_board.php). (Click on "New: Bi-Weekly Family Bike Rides & Beginner Hikes")

Tuesday, July 19, 4:30 PM: Hike, Brewster River Trails. Meet at the Brewster River Park. Come ready with proper footwear and water.

Tuesday, August 2, 4:30 PM: Bike Ride, Stowe Bike Path. Meet at the Lintilhac Park behind the Stowe Community Church on Main Street in Stowe Village. Come ready to ride with bike, helmet, snack, and water.

Tuesday, August 16, 4:30 PM: Hike, Prospect Rock, Johnson Park at the trailhead/suspension bridge on Hogback Road. Come ready with proper footwear and water.

**Chittenden East youth football program is back!**

The Chittenden East *Wolverines* youth football program is back for 2022 and it's time to register your kiddos to join their friends on the big field!

The Wolverine program runs in the fall, August-October, with a long history of Championship football. Come be a part of a team, build strong relationships, learn life lessons and build memories that will last a lifetime while learning the game of football.

Registration is open for all players in grades 1-8. Team members in grades 1-4 grader play flag football, and those in grades 5-8 grader play tackle.

Practices will start on Monday, August 15. All practices are held behind Jericho Elementary School. Fees are \$95 (plus \$50 in raffle ticket sales) or \$145 (with no obligation to sell raffle tickets).

To register, go online to <https://forms.gle/88Mr412yK6QiVDHG9>.

For more information please email Steve and Eva McLaughlin, [keepgrowing2@gmail.com](mailto:keepgrowing2@gmail.com).

important it is that you fill out the transportation survey so we can accurately plan routes.

In the afternoon, there will be four bus routes from school next year. Those four routes will provide transportation for all K-12 students who wish to ride the bus. The bus will leave EHS with students in grades 9-12, and arrive at Westford at 3:10 PM at the end of the school day. K-8 students will then be transported home with grade 9-12 students. EJRP will continue to offer after-school care.

Once routes are determined, there will be some K-8 students with a longer ride in the mornings. Hopefully, the change in the school start time to 8:10 AM will help with this. The change in the school day start and end times also ensures appropriate supervision of students and allows us to start and end our day with students with their classroom teachers. Adding our high school students to the afternoon routes allows us to more effectively address the limited number of drivers, provide a drop-off closer to their homes, and decrease the amount of time they are on the bus. It may make for a shorter afternoon ride home than the morning ride to school for our K-8 students.

**Kindergarten Registration and Placement:** Please contact the main office if you have a child who will enter kindergarten at Westford School for the 2022/23 year. Please check our Kindergarten Slideshow for specific information such as a sample schedule, examples of student work, and important dates such as Kindergarten Orientation on Friday, August 26 when students will visit their new classroom.

We anticipate having two classrooms to support the number of K students we expect for the 2022/23 school year. We hired an additional elementary teacher for the upcoming school year, Ms. Mariah Burke, due to the year-after-year increase in the number of kindergarten students. Kindergarten and first-grade students will now benefit from class sizes around 14 instead of 20-24. At this time, we are planning for a K classroom, a first-grade classroom, and a K/1 classroom.

**Graduation / Promotion Night:** Thank you to the faculty, staff, families, and community members who helped celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students this year during promotion night. We could not have asked for a more beautiful night to be outdoors together celebrating such wonderful students. Our graduation features recognition statements and a stunning slideshow of students over the years.

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## COMING EVENTS

**Award winner**

A tree sparrow carries pine needles to be used as nest-building materials. See this and 99 more award-winning photographs of wild birds, winners in the 2022 Audubon Photography Awards, at <https://www.audubon.org/news/the-2022-audubon-photography-awards-top-100>?

PHOTO BY SARAH DEVLIN



the senior championship, Jenna also received the Paul Quinn Memorial Award, which honors a late equine photographer who was a staunch supporter of the state 4-H horse program and show.

**ENGLISH DIVISION** (based on combined scores in equitation, trail, pleasure, and either road hack or hunter under saddle classes):

Junior (8-13) — Champion: Madeline Langlois, Westford; Reserve Champion: Emma Sibley, St. Albans

Senior (14-18) — Champion: Vivienne Babbott, Hinesburg; Reserve Champion: Alessandra Hoffman, Milton

**WESTERN DIVISION** (based on combined scores from equitation, trail, performance and pleasure classes) were:

Champion: Ella Dubin, Northfield, MA; Reserve Champion: Britney Zager, Gill, MA

Gymkhana (speed pattern racing and timed games on horseback) —

Beginner (first-time competitor) — Champion: Sydney Gorton, Milton; Reserve: Katie Comerford-Joyce, Burlington

Junior (8-13) — none

Senior (14-18) — Champion: Jenna Bennett, Swanton; Reserve Champion: Haileigh Demers, Westford

**SMALL EQUINE** (miniature horse or small pony shown in hand): Champion: Adaline Ploof, Westford

Championships also were awarded to the top beginners (walk/trot) and advanced beginners, riding either English or Western. Winners were determined by combining each individual's placements from designated classes.

Beginner — Champion: Paityn Paradee, Swanton; Reserve Champion: Micah Burdo, St. Albans

Advanced Beginner — Champion: Jasmine Akley, Vernon; Reserve Champion: Elizabeth Gamble, West Danville

Several special awards also were presented at the show:

Dressage High Point Award: Seanna Erickson, Florence

Designated Hitter High Point 4-H Champion (overall high points in the 4-H Division): Emma Sibley, St. Albans

Jim Wallace Memorial Pleasure Class Award (top finisher in this class): Britney Zager, Gill, MA

Melissa Issler Alumni Equitation Class for 4-H alumni: Cassidy Wyman, Cambridgeport

Marci Mac plaque (winner of the versatility class): Madeline Langlois, Westford

The Whispering Pines 4-H Club of Westford won both the 4-H Club Award (club with the highest combined scores in the 4-H Division) and 4-H Club Class. For the latter competition, two or more members of a club present a short riding program that

is evaluated on the originality, style, and their ability to perform well together.

To learn more about the UVM Extension 4-H Horse Program, contact Wendy Sorrell, UVM Extension 4-H livestock educator, at 802-651-8343, ext. 513.

**Young equestrians compete in State 4-H horse show**

Competitors in the 2022 Vermont 4-H Horse Show couldn't have asked for nicer weather as it was nothing but sunny, blue-sky days for the Friday-Sunday, July 8-10 event.

The annual show, sponsored by University of Vermont Extension 4-H, was held at the Addison County Fair and Field Days site in New Haven. It attracted more than 50 4-H'ers from 10 Vermont 4-H clubs, who collectively competed in almost 100 English and Western classes as well as fitting and showmanship and other events.

Madeline Langlois, Westford, was named the 4-H Showmanship Champion for placing first overall in fitting and showmanship. The Reserve 4-H Showmanship Champion went to Paityn Paradee, Swanton. Both girls won their respective fitting and showmanship divisions with the top two from each division (Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Junior, and Senior) competing for the championship.

The 4-H Division winners (based on highest overall combined score from fitting and showmanship, judging, quiz bowl, and the 4-H project class) were:

Beginner — Champion: Paityn Paradee, Swanton; Reserve Champion: Katie Comerford-Joyce, Burlington

Advanced Beginner — Champion: Jasmine Akley, Vernon; Reserve Champion: Seanna Erickson, Florence

Junior (8-13) — Champion: Emma Sibley, St. Albans; Reserve Champion: Adaline Ploof, Westford

Senior (14-18) — Champion: Jenna Bennett, Swanton; Reserve Champion: Alessandra Hoffman, Milton. For earning

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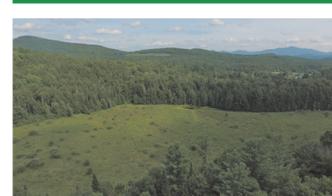
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